where great writing begins
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Atta Boy
A Novel
by Cally Fiedorek

“Atta Boy is a Bonfire of the Vanities for the twenty-first century—a propulsive, unforgettable journey through a deeply stratified New York. From brawling barrooms to the glittering co-ops of Park Avenue, this is a fearless chronicle of the way we live and where we are headed. Fiedorek is an urgent writer for these times, with an unstinting eye for the class divisions that define who we are. I couldn’t put Atta Boy down.”—Ross Barkan, author, The Night Burns Bright

In December 2018, we meet Rudy Coyle, a bar owner’s son from Flushing, Queens, in the throes of a major quarter-life crisis. Cut out of the family business, he gets a Hail Mary job as a night doorman in a storied Park Avenue apartment building, where he comes under the wing of the family in 4E, the Cohens.

Jacob “Jake” Cohen, the fast-talking patriarch, is one of a generation of financiers who made hundreds of millions of dollars in the cutthroat taxi medallion industry in the early 2000s, largely by preying on the hopes and dreams of impoverished immigrant drivers. As Jake tries to stop the bleed from the debt crisis now plaguing his company, clawing back his assets from an increasingly dangerous coterie of Russian American associates, Rudy gets promoted from doorman to errand boy to bodyguard to something like Jake’s right-hand man.

By turns a gripping portrait of corruption and a tender family dramedy, Atta Boy combines the urban cool of Richard Price with the glossy, uptown charm of Taffy Brodesser-Akner. Here is a novel richly attuned to its time and place, but with something for everyone—high-wire prose and a story wedding ripped from the headlines, social realism with the warmth, angst, and humor of its indelible voices.

Cally Fiedorek is the winner of a Pushcart Prize and an Emerging Writer Fellowship from the Center for Fiction. She lives in New York, New York.

“In a lukewarm literary landscape, Atta Boy blazes like a burning copy of the New York Post chucked from an open window of the 1 train. Fiedorek is a writer to watch—and watch out for.”—Andrew Ridker, author, Hope

“Att Boy is a New York novel like I’ve never read before. Lively, madcap, and frequently hilarious, but not without sensitivity and insight too. Via its cast of all-too-human characters, Fiedorek whisks us from dim barrooms to gleaming penthouses to examine the complexities and compromises of being alive today.”—Rachel Khong, author, Real Americans

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FICTION
Attachments
Essays on Fatherhood and Other Performances
by Lucas Mann

“The essays in Attachments are fierce and funny and agile, following the so-called ‘smallest’ moments of daily experience to the subterranean inquiries these moments have always been attached to, about the entanglements between intimacy and transformation, past and prior selves, culture and selfhood. (Which is to say: Come for the playground soap operas, stay for the acute observations about social performance!) Mann’s interest in attachment itself has to do not just with love but with identity: what versions of ourselves we are most attached to, and what parts of us emerge when we betray these attachments. I love Mann’s writing for its company and its candor, and especially for its ruthless battle with the twin demons of self-pity and self-satisfaction. His razor gaze slices through righteousness like a mandolin’s blade slivers fruit; exposing those wry, quick-silver feelings—often embarrassing, always illuminating—tucked into the crevices of the more familiar emotions we are most comfortable making visible, even to ourselves; but always, always the animating engine of this rigor is love.”
—Leslie Jamison, author, The Empathy Exams: Essays

Lucas Mann turns his attention, tenderness, self-reflection, and humor to contemporary fatherhood. He looks closely at all the joys, frustrations, subtleties, and contradictions within an experience that often goes under-discussed. At once intimate and expansive, Mann chronicles his own life with his young daughter, but also looks outward to the cultural and political baggage that surrounds and permeates these everyday experiences. Moving through memoir, lyric essay, literary analysis, and pop culture criticism, Attachments treats the subject of fatherhood with the depth, curiosity, and vivid emotion that it deserves.

Lucas Mann teaches creative writing at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. He is author of Captive Audience: On Love and Reality TV. He lives in Providence, Rhode Island, where he owns Riffraff Bookstore and Bar.
“Naked and tender, Attachments is an eyes-wide-open exploration of everything that matters. In this twelve-essay collection that spans parenthood, culture, art, and community, Mann has embraced far-ranging and clear-eyed observation that’s as astute as it honest. A special, singular book that invites us all to participate fully in the suffering, beautiful world.”
—Rachel Yoder, author, Nightbitch

“Mann’s insights on the hilarity, devastation, and absolute weirdness of raising a child make this a book I want to discuss with everyone. It’s so sharp and beautifully written.”—Beth Nguyen, author, Owner of a Lonely Heart

“Mann’s essays are so funny, so endearing, so companionable, so relentless in their quest for self-knowledge and more nuanced, more generous understanding. Attachments reveals a mind that is always working on something, finding ways to make everything interesting, be it fandom or lost promise, social media and ‘the dad space,’ comfort TV or sleep training, the ‘cliché factory’ of parenthood in general. It may be ‘impossible to feel remarkable in this world,’ and yet life, in its particulars, is ‘thrilling’—‘thrilling!’”—Elisa Gabbert, author, Normal Distance

“Attachments works itself into the fleshy folds I’ve spent most of my life avoiding. The writing and vision are somehow welcoming and spectacular, yet the book’s greatest achievement might lay within the portals of entry created by Mann’s use of the comic. Attachments found me at the perfect time in my life.”
—Kiese Laymon, author, Heavy: An American Memoir
“A Grotesque Animal is a book that bares both teeth and soul. A bold and unabashed call to name our stories and ourselves, to take off the masks we’ve been taught to wear and to live without shame. In a collection of essays both searching and searing, Lillard explores the possibilities of womanhood, weirdness, selfhood, and home, interrogating the stories and silences we inherit, those we tell ourselves, and those we cast off. This is a book for the weird women—the queer women, the disabled women, the childfree and witchy women, who resist and refuse the narratives they’re given about what their bodies should be, who write their own stories, and who claim a new language for their lives.” —Melissa Faliveno, author, Tomboyland

AT THE AGE OF forty-three, Amy Lee Lillard learned she was autistic. She learned she was part of a community of unseen women who fell through the gaps due to medical bias and social stereotypes.

A Grotesque Animal explores the making, unmaking, and making again of a woman with an undiagnosed disorder. How did a working-class background and a deep-rooted Midwest culture of silence lead to hiding in plain sight for decades? How did sexuality and anger hide the roots of trauma among the women in her family? And what does it mean to be a queer, disabled, aging woman, a descendant of wild but tamed mothers and a survivor of the things patriarchy inflicts?

Through wide-ranging styles and a combination of personal storytelling and cultural analysis, Lillard dissects anger, sexuality, autistic masking, bodies, punk, and female annihilation to create a new picture of modern women.

Amy Lee Lillard is author of Dig Me Out. She received an Iowa Author Award in 2023 and was named one of Epiphany’s Breakout 8 Writers in 2018. She lives in Des Moines, Iowa.

“This striking memoir sheds light on a topic that has been hidden for too long: the challenges and triumphs of girls and women with autism. At a time when growing numbers of women are receiving this diagnosis at mid-life, Lillard offers clarity, hope, and companionship to those faced with relearning who they are and what matters most to them.” —Kaitlin Ugolik Phillips, author, The Future of Feeling: Building Empathy in a Tech-Obsessed World
The Tigers of Lents
A Novel
by Mark Pomeroy

“The Tigers of Lents is a rich exploration of class, neighborhood, and, especially, the bonds—frayed, inescapable—of a family through time. Traveling with the Garrison sisters is an emotionally fraught and rewarding experience, deepened by detailed evocation of place and time, as well as a soundtrack that ranges from the Pet Shop Boys to Ratt to Jelly Roll Morton. I believe in these people. I worry about and hope for them.”—Peter Rock, author, My Abandonment

This is the story of the Garrison family, who live in Lents, an outer neighborhood of Portland, Oregon. At the heart of it all, there are the three Garrison sisters: Sara, the eldest, a fiery soccer star on the precipice of pulling herself out of the life of poverty she’s always known; Elaine, shy and struggling with the weight she carries both physically and mentally; and Rachel, a reader and poet whose imagination stalls at trying to picture a better life.

As the Garrisons struggle to communicate with each other, as they battle self-doubts and self-sabotage, they too draw on a fierce shared strength that allows them to push back at the reality that’s been handed to them. Each Garrison fights to hold on to their dignity—often through daily acts of grace and good humor, to say nothing of quiet perseverance—and to prove to themselves and each other that they shouldn’t be underestimated.

Mark Pomeroy leads creative writing workshops in Portland Public Schools. He is author of The Brightwood Stillness. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

“It’s clear that Mark Pomeroy has talent as a fiction writer and skill with language. His writing is fresh and direct. He writes very well.”—Kent Haruf, author, Plainsong
The Body Alone
A Lyrical Articulation of Chronic Pain
by Nina Lohman

“This is not a book about pain—it’s a journey into the heart of it. By taking readers through her own experience placed thoughtfully within the context of literature and science, Lohman’s story will resonate with those living in the land of pain and serve as a primer for those who have not ventured into it—yet.”
—Abby Norman, author, Ask Me About My Uterus: A Quest to Make Doctors Believe in Women’s Pain

THE BODY ALONE is an inquiry into the experience, meaning, and articulation of pain. It is a personal hybrid account incorporating research, scholarship, and memoir to examine chronic pain through the multi-lens of medicine, theology, and philosophy. Broken bodies tell broken stories. Nina Lohman’s pain experience is portrayed through a cyclical narrative of primers, vocabulary lessons, prescription records, and hypothesized internal monologues—fractured not for the sake of experimentation but because the story itself demands it.

In both form and content, The Body Alone represents boundary-pressing work that subverts the traditional narrative by putting pressure on the medical, cultural, and political systems that impact women’s access to fair and equal healthcare. This is more than an illness narrative, it is a battle cry demanding change.

Nina Lohman is founder and publisher of Brink, a literary journal that champions hybrid and cross-genre works. She is Literary Programming Director for the Mission Creek Festival. A 2023 Iowa Artist Fellow, her writing has been supported by the Vermont Studio Center, the Sewanee Writers’ Conference, and the Iowa Arts Council. She lives in Iowa City, Iowa.

“This book is a searching inventory of a life altered by pain, punctuated with forays into history, etymology, theology, and poetics. It’s a stubborn, tender record of the unrecordable, a brave attempt to describe something that cannot ever be truly communicated. A beautiful howl of a book.”
—Jordan Kisner, author, Thin Places: Essays from In Between

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MEMOIR / HEALTH
Love Is My Favorite Flavor
A Midwestern Dining Critic Tells All
by Wini Moranville

FoodStory
Nina Mukerjee Furstenauf, series editor

“In the tradition of the great food writers of our time—from M. F. K. Fisher to Betty Fussell—Wini Moranville provides an insider’s view of the nuances, pressures, and delights of the food business. She writes of waiting tables in a Country Kitchen franchise to dining in the most elegant French restaurants. She writes of the straightforward but delicious meals on her grandparents’ Iowa farm to her wine-tasting trips to Chile and Spain. You’ll devour this excellent memoir, savor its aromas and flavors, and linger over the insights about the foods we love to eat.”—Mary Swander, former Iowa Poet Laureate, author, The Maverick M.D.

IN A REMARKABLE career that has spanned nearly fifty years, Wini Moranville has witnessed the American restaurant landscape transform from the inside out. At just shy of fourteen, she began a ten-year stretch working in a kaleidoscope of quintessential midwestern eateries of the time. Moranville’s hands-on experiences weave a vivid tapestry of the American restaurant landscape in the 1970s and 1980s. In the mid-1990s, the tables turned as Moranville became a prolific food and wine writer for national publications, as well as the dining critic for the Des Moines Register and dsm Magazine.

Amidst the vast changes that have occurred over the years, Love Is My Favorite Flavor underscores the timeless of what it is we seek when we entrust restaurateurs with our hard-earned money and our hard-won leisure time. Dining out may have changed dramatically since the 1970s, but the joys of being in the hands of people who care deeply about our time at their tables have not.

Wini Moranville has worked as a cookbook author, food and wine writer, and restaurant reviewer for more than twenty-five years. She has written hundreds of food-related articles for national food magazines and has served as the wine columnist for Relish Magazine, a TV food segment host, and a James Beard Restaurant Awards panelist.

“She has convinced me that the very best preparation for becoming a restaurant critic is working as a waitress. Fortunately for us, she is a former waitress with a sharp wit and a way with words. Her memories of serving at many Des Moines restaurants in her teens and twenties are entertaining, but also truly enlightening. Her experience, insight, and humanity give us a new window into the restaurant industry. You might just find yourself thinking differently about the restaurants that you love and feeling a little nostalgic for long-gone restaurants you’ve never heard of before. Spoiler alert: it’s never just about the food. Savored or devoured, this book will leave you feeling deeply satisfied.”
—Charity Nebbe, Iowa Public Radio

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FOOD / MEMOIR
Children in Tactical Gear
by Peter Mishler

Winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize

“Mishler knows our world may be past saving—he also knows that this moment is worth saving, and that this moment, at least, is not past, yet. He inscribes it, quivering with life, with so much doomed beautiful life that it’s impossible not to love it, this book, this life, this beauty only Peter Mishler could write, in just this crushed, loving way.”—Brenda Shaughnessy, judge, Iowa Poetry Prize

“Children in Tactical Gear seems to me an almost impossible book, a book that works like autotune on the current moment, somehow both exactly present and ahead of the present. How did Mishler know Mattel would be in everyone’s thoughts just when his book was being released? And how did he make such beautiful, skipping music of the flat noise of twenty-first-century consumer culture? In each of these poems is such music, and ‘depth / swollen with / depth’s becoming,’ magically achieved.”—Shane McCrae, author, Pulling the Chariot of the Sun

CHILDREN IN TACTICAL GEAR offers a brilliant feed of stark incantations and unsparing satire. Set in distinctly American landscapes, including toy weapon assembly lines and the compounds of the super rich, and voiced by imperiled children, failed adults, and even a smart home speaker, this collection demonstrates the unsettling force of a surreal imagination under duress.

Peter Mishler’s collection Fludde won the Kathryn A. Morton Prize from Sarabande Books. He lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

“Children in Tactical Gear enacts its own words, ‘unstitching, re-stitching’ the truth of childhood manipulations enacted through romanticized and imposed ideals. A prestidigitator of words and image, Mishler pulls back the veil to reveal the ways in which we become the toys that we played with and the myths we were taught. Under Mishler’s eye, the real and the imagined collide and combust creating a page-turning collection that masterfully shows as it tells. Just be warned that when you pick this book up, be prepared not to put it down.”—Airea D. Matthews, author, Bread and Circus

“Mishler’s poems are like language eating language, binging on rhymes and turns, until what emerges is something entirely new.”—Victoria Chang, author, Obit
The Lengest Neoi
by Stephanie Choi

Winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize

"Stephanie Choi, having connected body and mind through time and generations, mother tongues and lost lineages, can also make prismatic, melodic, gorgeous stories in emails, crossword puzzles, text chains, lists, and laments. This poet is wily, radical, fluidly ingenious with words, image, emotion. She has to be: there are so many ways to erase Asian American life / perspective / creations, to knock down each individual granddaughter, erase each artist. This poet reinscribes all with nuanced brilliance, photographic sensory memory, and fierce love.”
—Brenda Shaughnessy, judge, Iowa Poetry Prize

"This is an ambitious debut that brings together issues of language loss through assimilation and acculturation, the connection between race and disability, and issues of transcultural Asian and Asian American identity and representation. Formally playful, intellectually rich, Choi’s poems deftly explore these and other issues in devastating but also imaginatively playful forms that reveal the many identities a hyphenated self must inhabit and traverse.”
—Paisley Rekdal, University of Utah

THE LENGEST NEOI embraces and complicates what it means to err—to wander or go astray; a deviation from a code of behavior or truth; a mistake, flaw, or defect. Beginning with the collection’s title, which combines a colloquial Cantonese phrase (Leng Neoi / “Pretty Girl”) and the English suffix for the superlative degree (—est), these poems wander, deviate, and flow across bodies, geographies, and languages. In this collection from Stephanie Choi, you’ll find the poet’s “tongue writing herself, learning to speak.”

Stephanie Choi’s poems have appeared in Bellevue Literary Review, New Ohio Review, PANK, Blackbird, and Electric Literature. She is currently the poet-in-residence at Sewanee: The University of the South, and lives in Sewanee, Tennessee.

“With crystalline yearning, Choi maps the gaps between herself and her family, distances like blank lines in a poem; she, too, a remnant, searching for all she’s lost.”
—Douglas Kearney, author, Sho

“This is an illuminating collection of loss and location, about what’s revealed in mistranslation, and about how to make sense of the many pasts that inform our fate, without ever constricting our future. Choi’s work is a bright reckoning with history and identity, discovery, grief, and love—and I hope this book is only the first of many more to come.”
—Joshua Marie Wilkinson, author, Bad Woods

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POETRY
Atlas of Iowa
by Robert C. Shepard, Patrick Bitterman, J. Clark Archer, and Fred M. Shelley

Iowa and the Midwest Experience
William B. Friedricks, series editor

FROM IOWA TERRITORY’S nail-bitingly close referenda for statehood to the rise and subsequent erasure of German language media, Atlas of Iowa examines the state’s geography, demographics, agriculture, and political/cultural patterns. Drawing upon archival materials and synthesizing little-known secondary sources, the authors of this thematic atlas have pulled together a comprehensive map series that depicts Iowa’s complex, unique story of challenging human-environmental interaction. The narrative themes are conveyed both verbally and visually, allowing many of the state’s cultural debates to come alive. From Iowa’s rise to becoming a national leader in aspects of higher education and green energy development to its oft-critiqued social fabric, the Atlas of Iowa reveals the rich, complicated, and diverse heritage of the Hawkeye State.

Robert C. Shepard is GIS librarian at University of Chicago, where he also teaches coursework in geovisualization and geospatial literacy. Patrick Bitterman is assistant professor of geography within the School of Global Integrative Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has worked alongside policymakers, scientists, and other stakeholders to address pressing socio-environmental issues in multiple regions. J. Clark Archer is emeritus professor of geography in the School of Global Integrative Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Among others, he coauthored Atlas of the Great Plains. Fred M. Shelley was emeritus professor of geography at the University of Oklahoma, where he previously served as department head. Among others, he coauthored Atlas of Nebraska.

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GEOGRAPHY / HISTORY
Novel Competition
American Fiction and the Cultural Economy, 1965–1999
by Evan Brier

The New American Canon: The Iowa Series in Contemporary Literature and Culture
Samuel Cohen, series editor

“Placing the novel in a larger cultural field—in competition with journalism, popular music, and films for cultural prestige—Brier illuminates not only novels, but their readers, critics, editors, publishers, and booksellers.”—Erin A. Smith, University of Texas at Dallas

Novel Competition describes the literary and institutional struggle to make American novels matter between 1965 and 1999. As corporations took over the book business, Hollywood movies, popular music, and other forms of mass-produced culture competed with novels as never before for a form of prestige that had mostly been attached to novels in previous decades. In the context of this competition, developments like the emergence of Rolling Stone magazine, regional publishers, Black studies programs, and “New Hollywood” became key events in the life of the American novel. Novels by Truman Capote, Ann Beattie, Toni Cade Bambara, Cynthia Ozick, and Larry McMurtry—among many others—are recast as prescient reports on, and formal responses to, a world suddenly less hospitable to old claims about the novel’s value. This book brings to light the story of the novel’s perceived decline and the surprising ways American fiction transformed in its wake.

Evan Brier is associate professor of English at the University of Minnesota Duluth. He is author of A Novel Marketplace: Mass Culture, the Book Trade, and Postwar American Fiction. He lives in Duluth, Minnesota.

“Novel Competition confronts a fascinating and important subject: how the novel came to matter differently over the last third of the twentieth century. This decline is something that scholars of the novel have bemoaned for some time, and Brier offers a useful approach to making sense of it without resorting to well-trod and oversimplified answers. It is an engaging and important book.”—Emily Johansen, author, Beyond Safety: Risk, Cosmopolitanism, and the Neoliberal Contemporary Life

“Brier quietly transcends the limitations of dominant norms in the practices of literary history and the sociology of literature to give us an nth-dimensional view of American literature since 1965: how the novel became residual. He tells us what it means to believe—or disbelieve—in the power of fiction. It’s no less than thrilling.”—Dan Sinykin, author, Big Fiction: How Conglomeration Changed the Publishing Industry and American Literature
The Prophet’s Whistle
Late Antique Orality, Literacy, and the Quran
by George Archer

“This excellent and beautifully written book will generate excitement, delight, and, perhaps, some controversy. Reading it is an intellectual experience of a very high order. Archer explains that the fusion of orality and literacy in the ‘event of the Quran’ generates distinctive culture and meaning and, most importantly, belongs to all humanity. Warmly recommended to all world citizens.”—Todd Lawson, author, The Quran, Epic and Apocalypse

“The Quran is certainly one of the most important texts in human history. But it wasn’t originally a text at all. When the Quran appeared in the seventh century, it was a vocal recital performed by an unlettered man named Muhammad. It remains an oral performance for Muslims all over the world to this day.

The Prophet’s Whistle is a study of the ancient, nonliterary features of the Quran, many of which are often overlooked by historians and the public. George Archer corrects this striking absence by using observations from the anthropology of living oral cultures, the cognitive sciences of literacy, and the study of other dead oral cultures. The Prophet’s Whistle shows that the thought systems of the Quran are oral, through and through, but by the end of the life of its Prophet, the Quran likewise hints at a personal and cultural embrace of writing and the mindsets of literate people.

George Archer is assistant professor of religious studies at Iowa State University. He is author of A Place Between Two Places: The Quranic Barzakh, which was awarded Iran’s World Book of the Year Award in 2018. He lives in Des Moines, Iowa.

“Islamic and Qur’anic studies have not really grappled with serious considerations of orality, and the consequences of this argument are significant. The Prophet’s Whistle represents a new contribution.”—Lauren Osborne, Whitman College

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RELIGION / ISLAM
The Roots of Cane
Jean Toomer and American Magazine Modernism
by John K. Young

Impressions: Studies in the Art, Culture, and Future of Books
Matthew P. Brown, series editor

THE ROOTS OF CANE proposes a new way to read one of the most significant works of the New Negro Renaissance, Jean Toomer’s Cane. Rather than focusing on the form of the book published by Boni and Liveright, what Toomer would later call a single textual “organism,” John Young traces the many pieces of Cane that were dispersed across multiple modernist magazines from 1922 through 1923. These periodicals ranged from primarily political monthlies to avant-garde arts journals to regional magazines with transnational aspirations.

Young interweaves a periodical-studies approach to modernism with book history and critical race theory, resituating Toomer’s uneasy place within Black modernism by asking how original readers would have encountered his work. The different contexts in which those audiences were engaging with Toomer’s portraits of racialized identity in the Jim Crow United States, yield often surprising results.

John K. Young is professor of English at Marshall University. Previous publications include How to Revise a True War Story: Tim O’Brien’s Process of Textual Production (Iowa, 2017). He lives outside Columbus, Ohio.
Rowdy Carousals
The Bowery Boy on Stage, 1848–1913
by J. Chris Westgate

Studies in Theatre History and Culture
Heather S. Nathans, series editor

“Westgate’s book presents a new and exciting history of a well-known figure in theatre history, the Bowery Boy. His detailed and careful research illustrates the Bowery Boy’s enduring influence on the representation of white working-class men and how the figure became intertwined in debates over race, class, and immigration.”—Michelle Granshaw, author, Irish on the Move: Performing Mobility in American Variety Theatre

ROWDY CAROUSALS makes important interventions in nineteenth-century theatre history with regard to the Bowery Boy, a raucous, white, urban character most famously exemplified by Mose from A Glance at New York in 1848. Theatrical representations of the Bowery Boy emphasized the privileges of whiteness against nonwhite workers including enslaved and free African Americans during the Antebellum Period, an articulation of white superiority that continued through the early twentieth century with Jewish, Italian, and Chinese immigrants.

The book’s examination of working-class whiteness on stage, in the theatre, and in print culture invites theatre historians and critics to check the impulse to downplay or ignore questions about race and ethnicity in discussion of the Bowery Boy. J. Chris Westgate further explores links between the Bowery Boy’s rowdyism in the nineteenth century and the resurgence of white supremacy in the early twenty-first century.

J. Chris Westgate is professor of English at California State University, Fullerton. He is coeditor of Performing the Progressive Era: Immigration, Urban Life, and Nationalism on Stage (Iowa, 2019). He lives in Claremont, California.

“Exploring some of the nineteenth century’s most popular theatricals, Rowdy Carousals reveals the importance of urban subcultures to American cultural history—with their lively and sometimes troubling acts, Mose and his Bowery Boy cohort highlight the cross-class dynamics at the theatrical core of nineteenth-century philanthropy, urban tourism, and celebrity marketing.”—Peter Reed, University of Mississippi
Imaging Animal Industry
American Meatpacking in Photography and Visual Culture
by Emily Kathryn Morgan

Iowa and the Midwest Experience
William B. Friedricks, series editor

Imaging Animal Industry focuses on the visual culture of the American meat industry between 1890 and 1960. It describes how, during that period, photographs and other images helped to shape public perceptions of industrial-scale meat production. Although the meat industry today bans most photography at its facilities, in the past this was not always the case: the meat industry not only tolerated but welcomed cameras. Meatpacking companies and industry organizations regarded photographs as useful tools for creating and managing a vision of their activities, their innovations, and their contributions to the march of American economic and industrial progress.

Drawing on archival collections across the American Midwest, this book relates a history of the meatpacking industry’s use of images in the early to mid-twentieth century. In the process, it reveals the key role that images, particularly photographs, have played in assisting with the rise of industrial meat production.

Emily Kathryn Morgan is associate professor of art history at Iowa State University. She is the author of Street Life in London: Context and Commentary. She lives in Ames, Iowa.
Lyric Trade
Reading the Subject in the Postwar Long Poem
by Julia Bloch

Contemporary North American Poetry Series
Alan Golding, Lynn Keller, and Adalaide Morris, series editors

“Lyric Trade is a capacious and distinctive intervention in con-
temporary lyric studies, whose examination of the relationships
between long poems and lyric, subjectivity and form, and
politics and theory is grounded in a deeply thoughtful series of
readings of important twentieth-century poetics.”
—Andrea Brady, author, Poetry and Bondage: A History and Theory
of Lyric Constraint

Sometimes the word “lyric” seems to appear everywhere:
either it’s used interchangeably with the word “poetry” or it
attaches to descriptions of literature, art, film, and even ordinary
objects in order to capture some quality of aesthetic appeal or
meaning. Lyric Trade is not yet another attempt to define the lyric,
but instead it digs into how poems use lyric in relation to race,
gender, nation, and empire.

Engaging with poets such as Gwendolyn Brooks, H.D., Lorine
Niedecker, Alice Notley, and Myung Mi Kim, this book asks: What
does lyric mean, and why should it matter to poets and readers?
Lyric Trade argues that lyric in the postwar long poem not only reg-
isters the ideological contradictions of modernism’s insistence on
new forms, but that it also maps spaces for formal reimaginings
of the subject.

Julia Bloch is director of the Creative Writing Program at the Uni-
versity of Pennsylvania, and editor of Jacket2. She lives in Phila-
delphia, Pennsylvania.

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