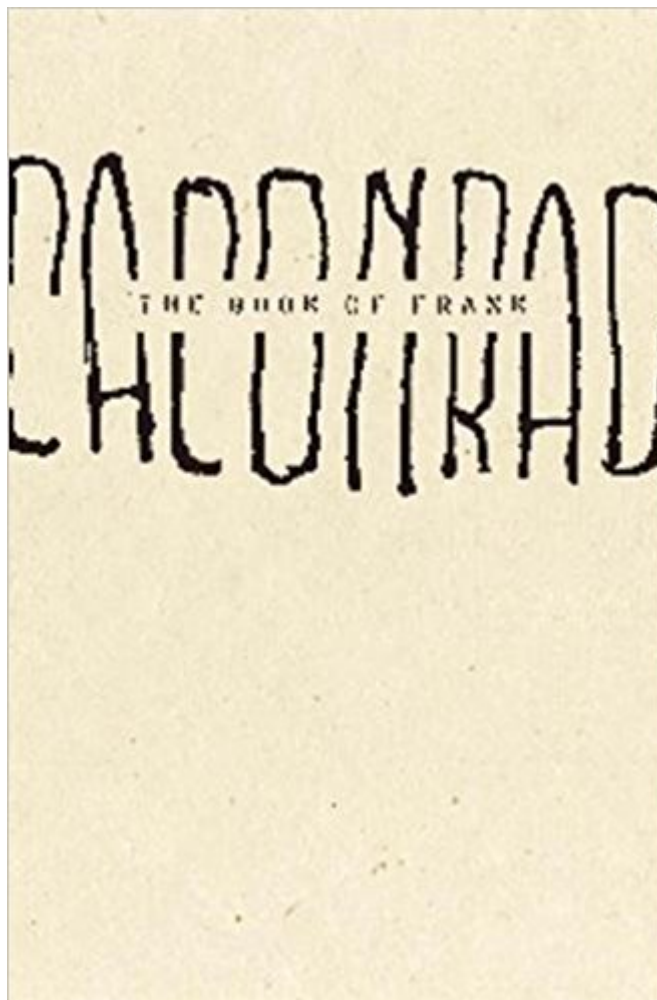


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The Book Of Frank



Synopsis

Winner of the 2009 Gil Ott Book Award, this expanded edition of *The Book of Frank* features additional "Frank" poems and an essay by Eileen Myles. Praised by poet Anne Waldman as a "voyeursque surreal portrait," *The Book of Frank* is also, in the words of poet-critic Alan Gilbert, a "candid portrayal of human cruelty and its resultant fantasies of escape."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The poems capture moments, and they don't explain themselves. But, cumulatively, they invoke a sense of what it is like to be almost supernaturally sensitive, empathic, curious, responsive. In short: what it feels like to be a poet, possessed by a muse." — Charles Kruger, *The Rumpus*

"I've grown to love CA Conrad the man, the work, and all he attempts and represents because he always argues (from the inside of his poems) for a poetry of radical inclusivity while keeping a very queer shoulder to the wheel. His kind of queerness strikes me as nonpolarizing, not intentionally but because of the fullness of his exposition, a kind of gigantism that seems to me to be most deeply informed by love, and a tenderness for the ravages and tumult of existence." — Eileen Myles

"Conrad's construction and airing of Frank's reality isn't just dream tittering. Instead, these poems show imagination as a vehicle of outright salvation..." — Mike Young, *NOÿ Journal*

"At once charming and frightening, *The Book of Frank* will certainly take the top of your head off, and it might just replace it with something better." — Noah Eli Gordon, *Boston Review*

"Conrad's approach is a welcome change from high-minded poetry that steadfastly ignores the body in all its dumb, limiting

materiality...Only by engaging this body, by forcing ourselves to travel through the shames and humiliations of its portals, can we achieve transport." — Christopher Schmidt, BookForum "The poems capture moments, and they don't explain themselves. But, cumulatively, they invoke a sense of what it is like to be almost supernaturally sensitive, empathic, curious, responsive. In short: what it feels like to be a poet, possessed by a muse." — Charles Kruger, The Rumpus "I've grown to love CA Conrad; the man, the work, and all he attempts and represents; because he always argues (from the inside of his poems) for a poetry of radical inclusivity while keeping a very queer shoulder to the wheel. His kind of queerness strikes me as nonpolarizing, not intentionally but because of the fullness of his exposition, a kind of gigantism that seems to me to be most deeply informed by love, and a tenderness for the ravages and tumult of existence." — Eileen Myles "Conrad's construction and airing of Frank's reality isn't just dream tittering. Instead, these poems show imagination as a vehicle of outright salvation..." — Mike Young, NOÏF "Journal" "At once charming and frightening, The Book of Frank will certainly take the top of your head off, and it might just replace it with something better." — Noah Eli Gordon, Boston Review "Conrad's approach is a welcome change from high-minded poetry that steadfastly ignores the body in all its dumb, limiting materiality...Only by engaging this body, by forcing ourselves to travel through the shames and humiliations of its portals, can we achieve transport." — Christopher Schmidt, BookForum

CA Conrad is the author of *The Book of Frank* (Wave Books, 2010/Chax Press, 2009). He is also the author of *Advanced Elvis Course* (Soft Skull Press, 2009), *(Soma)tic Midge* (Faux Press, 2008), *Deviant Propulsion* (Soft Skull Press, 2006), and a collaboration with poet Frank Sherlock titled *The City Real and Imagined* (Factory School, 2010). The son of white trash asphyxiation, his childhood included selling cut flowers along the highway for his mother and helping her shoplift. In 2011, he was awarded a Pew Fellowship by the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

This book starts with a bang and doesn't disappoint from there. It's powerfully visceral with minimal verbiage and almost like doing a hallucinogen. Highly recommend.

A gorgeous work.

The Book of Frank is, well frank. Frank's story is told through a series of poems, or perhaps a single epic poem. This book is darkly funny, sometimes horrifying, and frankly challenging. I laughed and I

wept, and was grateful for all of it.

Incomprehensible.

In 50 years, CA Conrad will be the poet from the 1990s and 2000s that is referenced and studied. He explores, expands, and explodes genres leaving all labels in his wake. This book is powerfully written, funny, sad, depressing, hitting topics of love, hate, fear, sexuality, and virtually all other elements of human emotions. What else would a poetry book need? What else could a poetry reader ask for?

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