THE BOOK OF SCENTED THINGS:
100 CONTEMPORARY POEMS ABOUT PERFUME
EDITED BY JEHANNE DUBROW & LINDSAY LUSBY

About THE BOOK OF SCENTED THINGS

What if 100 contemporary American poets were sent individually selected vials of perfume, fragrances chosen to reflect the authors’ voices, aesthetics, or writerly obsessions? What if each poet wrote something new in response? THE BOOK OF SCENTED THINGS collects the results of this strange, aromatic experiment: poems of longing and of childhood memory, poems of place and philosophy and politics, poems about the challenge of writing poems about perfume. This is an anthology whose words will linger on your pulse points long after even the base notes have faded.

“This was not science but intuition. We asked ourselves odd questions like, If Laura Kasischke were a flower what would she smell like? What’s the spice of a Matthew Zapruder line break? Is a Rachel Hadas poem an orchard or a temple?”

— Jehanne Dubrow, from the introduction
**Why My Father Smells Like the Night**

Bruce Snider

Because he lifted the rusted cutting shears in the name of his dead brother and the tree limbs refused to give. Because he wore Brut, bear scat and barley, the idle threats of birds. Because he wore barn knot and broken, making anger look easy. His cologne filled the house with its cheap drugstore worry. Whiff of bacon. Whiff of spade-split turnip. When his brother died, he cried for days. Because the world clung to him, spit sticky and grease fire. Because he walked out wearing manly and make-do. Because his brother once took him fishing in Ohio. Because when he went to the graveyard, the pine trees released their dark scents. Because what else would grief smell like if not black shadows in the cornfield, if not the moon’s slow bone caught in the bullfrog’s throat?

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**COMMEMORATIVE LETTERPRESS BROADSIDE**

printed in a limited edition of 85 copies

To celebrate the launch of THE BOOK OF SCENTED THINGS, the Literary House Press designed and printed this broadside featuring Bruce Snider’s poem from the anthology, “Why My Father Smells Like the Night.” The poem was printed on Fabriano Tiziano paper in moss green using black and silver ink on a Vandercook 4 Proof Press. Signed copies are available for $20 each and may be purchased by e-mailing LHP sales representative, Owen Bailey at obailey2@washcoll.edu.
JEHANNE DUBROW, co-editor

Jehanne Dubrow is the author of four poetry collections, including most recently Red Army Red and Stateside (Northwestern University Press, 2012 and 2010). In 2015, University of New Mexico Press will publish her fifth book of poems, The Arranged Marriage. She is the Director of the Rose O’Neill Literary House and an Associate Professor of creative writing at Washington College.

LINDSAY LUSBY, co-editor

Lindsay Lusby’s first chapbook Imago was published by dancing girl press in 2014. Her poems have been featured in Fairy Tale Review, Midway Journal, and The Feminist Wire, among others. She is the Assistant Director of the Rose O’Neill Literary House at Washington College.

The Literary House Press is currently at work on its next poetry anthology, POEM WITH STILL LIFE: 100 NATURES MORTES IN VERSE, scheduled for publication October 2016.

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