



Whitethorn: Poems (LSU Press Paperback Original)

Jacqueline Osherow

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In “Poem for Jenne,” which opens Jacqueline Osherow’s ambitious and challenging new collection, a neighbor has planted larkspur and delphinium in the poet’s yard and is tending them hoping to bring color and light into a household stricken by personal tragedy. As the bright blue, star-shaped flowers bloom for a second time, the poet writes, “earth’s reaching for her heavens, I for words / or any chink of rapture I can claim.” The pervasive theme, in this poem and throughout *Whitethorn*, is that human suffering may be irremediable, yet in nature and language one may find a key to unlock the mysteries of sorrow.

Osherow searches for that cipher by exploring a range of suffering, from the personal to the historical and cultural. In the poem “Orders of Infinity” she visits Treblinka and, in her inability to count the stones or quantify the real loss of the Holocaust, ponders the impossibility of imagining the unborn generations of the victims’ descendants, an infinity of lives not lived, “undreamed daydreams, mute conversations, ungratified indulgences, failed hints . . .”

In *Whitethorn*, a book of enormous scope and emotional intelligence, Osherow unflinchingly examines the pain of her own personal history and courageously probes the greater mystery of evil and suffering in the world.

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Cathy Spearman:

The reason? Because this Whitethorn: Poems (LSU Press Paperback Original) is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will surprise you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to delay having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

Arthur McLaurin:

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