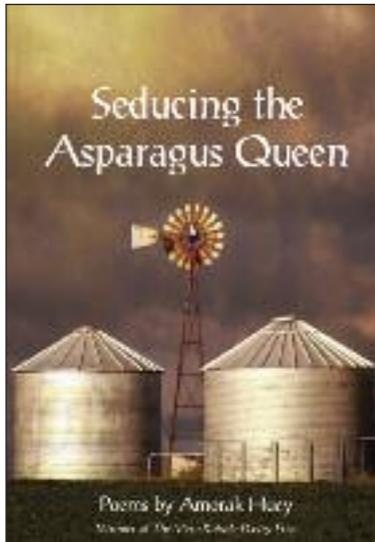


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Seducing the Asparagus Queen, **Poems by Amorak Huey**

Published by Cloudbank Books, *Seducing the Asparagus Queen* was awarded the Vern Rutsala Book Prize in 2018.

Huey is an associate professor of writing at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Previously, he worked as a newspaper reporter and editor. In addition to *Seducing the Asparagus Queen*, Huey is author of the poetry collection, *Ha Ha Ha Thump* (Sundress Publications, 2015). Forthcoming in early 2019 is *Boom Box* (also from Sundress). Two poetry chapbooks have been published: *The Insomniac Circus* (Hyacinth Girl Press, 2014), and *A Map of the Farm Three Miles from the End of Happy Hollow Road* (Porkbelly Press, 2016). He is co-author, with W. Todd Kaneko, of the textbook *Poetry: A Writer's Guide and Anthology*, published by Bloomsbury Academic. He is currently writing a novel, tentatively titled *City of Rocks*.

Praise for *Seducing the Asparagus Queen*

"Amorak Huey's poems are bright and funny and motored in this book by a debate between the part of him that hopes we're going to be OK and the part that worries we're going over a cliff. This is a poet who's getting older and looking around at where he's landed in a way that's bracing and honest: "We are certain / someone's taken out a contract on our love affair." *Seducing the Asparagus Queen* carries an ache that never gets resolved or brushed away, making the moments of appreciation seem less like a poet's alchemy than a man's discovery of who he is and what he cherishes." —Bob Hicok

"All of the lines in these poems are my favorite lines. It breaks my heart a little to find out what happens in the next sentence, and that's exactly what I come to poetry for. Nothing else can range so quickly between the hundreds of things heroically trying to matter right now, and Amorak Huey's funny, necessary, generous, declarative poems are proof." —Catie Rosemurgy

"In *Seducing the Asparagus Queen*, the Midwest is an electrically charged site, a location haunted by figures from Allen Ginsberg to an equally mythological father figure to The Letter X. Even the elegiac moments in the collection are not about emptiness—Huey expertly conveys how loss comes alive. Love, family, place, nostalgia, and time are in a continuous process of being called back, and every indictment is matched with praise. Ultimately, everywhere we end up is a *here* we have always known—Amorak Huey awakens this familiarity in us." —Iliana Rocha

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