



The Black Automaton (National Poetry Series)

By Douglas Kearney

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"Douglas Kearney's innovative new collection makes me tremble like a 'mouth and mind full of fish hooks.' . . . These poems literally vibrate with Kearney's precocious intellect and passion. They hum, they bang, they bite. What else can I say? I have never encountered poetry like this before."—Terrance Hayes

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Editorial Review

Review

"First, you have to see Douglas Kearney's visual poems, which cheekily diagram cultural memes as if they were parts of speech (as they are). The Black Automaton has its share of sharp, tender lyrics, too... these exploit the political possibilities of puns and the way meanings hinge on inexact resemblance. Kearney's poems tweak and skewer pop culture and literary sources from Paul Laurence Dunbar to T. S. Eliot to traditional ballads and blues... Kearney's work turns poetic and cultural conventions disquietingly inside out." --Catherine Wagner

Review

"Douglas Kearney's innovative new collection makes me tremble like a 'mouth and mind full of fish hooks.' It makes me think of the despair at the heart of ecstasy; of restlessness as a kind of anodyne. These poems literally vibrate with Kearney's precocious intellect and passion. They hum, they bang,, they bite. This is a jaw-dropping, electrifying book. What else can I Say? I have never encountered poetry like this before." (Terrance Hayes)

About the Author

Douglas Kearney's work as a poet, performer and librettist has been featured in many venues in print, in-the-flesh and in digital code. His first book, *Fear, Some*, was published in 2006. In 2008, he was honored with a Whiting Writers Award. He lives in the Valley with his wife and teaches at California Institute of the Arts. For more info, visit www.douglaskearney.com.

Users Review

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