



News from

Red Hen Press

P.O. Box 40820 Pasadena, CA 91114 (626) 356-4760 fax: (626) 356-9974 redhen.org

Beneath Stars Long Extinct

Poems by

Ron Egatz

The first published collection of poems by Ron Egatz presents a host of narrators describing encounters with characters ranging from washed-up rock musicians to former lovers, airline stowaways to family members. A poet for 25 years to the month of publication of this book, Egatz explores the limits of the lyric narrative poem with subject matter spanning historical events to family snapshots. This collection is a rallying cry for poetry unafraid of being understood, yet not sacrificing lyric quality, music, or emotional depth.

Beneath Stars Long Extinct

Poems by Ron Egatz

ISBN: 978-1-59709-486-3

6 x 9; Tradepaper

112 pages

Price: US \$18.95

Biographical note:

Ron Egatz has worked as a bartender, creative director, forklift operator, guitarist, security guard, college English teacher, cab driver, actor, typesetter, summons server, director of commercials and IT consultant. Winner of the Glimmer Train Poetry Open and the Greenburgh Poetry Award, Egatz lives with his wife Jenn in a loft on the Hudson River while missing Paris.

Praise for the *Beneath Stars Long Extinct*:

"I'm really taken with *Beneath Stars Long Extinct*. I've never read poems quite like these: poems at once sardonic and sad and celebratory as they detail a late 20th Century-early 21st Century unmarried male searching for and finding, yes, true love. But along with this passionate search come Ron Egatz's beautifully rendered stories of others: a hitch-hiking father who meets George Raft, women who die young, lonely near-failure rockers. Egatz's vibrant and extremely tactile poems conduct us into the urban world of choices and relationships in such an expert way that his fascinations become ours. How he illumines our age is not unlike how F. Scott Fitzgerald illuminated and defined his. Egatz's long overdue first collection, then, is a unique portrait of our urbanized times. I should add that each poem is able to stand alone even while each provides another facet to the book's central searching motifs. Consequently, there are an unusual number of "keeper" poems here, poems you want or even need to read immediately to friends, particularly those in their 30s and 40s (email them, twitter them, text them, but even better gift them with a copy of this book), necessary poems in this most compelling and necessary collection."

—Dick Allen