

News from

Red Hen Press

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Octavius the 1st

FICTION BY

Gaylord Brewer

Admirers of Gaylord Brewer's dark and lyrical poetry will be delightfully stunned by this frantic detour into fiction, *Octavius the 1st*. Against a backdrop of dog walking and the bloated throat sac of the male siamang gibbon, through a gauntlet of good ole home cookin' and the beatific lunch specials of the deli Cheeses Christ, to a soundtrack of soap operas and his own labored breathing, our protagonist, Octavius Trotter—lonely, hungry emperor of his mind—gambles the world's meagre wages of love and longing. Jonathan Livingston Seagull meets *The Bridges of Madison County*. A dollop of John Kennedy Toole, a swizzle of Kingsley Amis, a sprinkle of Joyce. This alternately tender and brutally hilarious long novella emerges as something new, yet still contumaciously, caustically, inimitably Brewer. You are about to enter the "Otto Zone," and life is about to change.

Octavius the 1st

Fiction by Gaylord Brewer

ISBN: 978-1-59709-082-7

Binding: Tradepaper

Size: 5.5 x 6.6; Pages: 160

Price US \$17.95

Praise for *Octavius the 1st*

Octavius the 1st is Gaylord Brewer's first novel, and it's clearly his best yet. It's also almost everybody else's best yet. *Octavius* is the funny, poignant, beautifully written tale of a thirty-something man who lives with his mother and grandmother and a constipated pug, and of the albino girl he loves. If this ain't the Great American Novel, it's close enough for country dancin'.

—Kinky Friedman