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Rx

POETRY BY

Josh Sapan

In his debut collection, CEO of AMC Networks Josh Sapan offers a glimpse into the sometimes painfully delicate and beautiful parts of life.

In his debut collection, Josh Sapan guides us through a lifetime of love and loss as he navigates death—of loved ones, of crickets, of houseplants—in an American landscape teeming with wonder and the promise of rebirth—in the stars, the wind, the minnows in the bay. In *Rx*, the prescription is literal (“blue-fog medicine breath”) and figurative (“Love so big,/ it comes in a gigantic red box.”). Sapan offers a glimpse into the sometimes painfully delicate and beautiful parts of life.

ADVANCE PRAISE

“Josh Sapan’s poems radiate with joy and empathy, presence and loss. Yet the emotions are held in tight focus by clean, sharp images and terse lines, which show us exactly how to step down through these compelling poems. It’s a balancing act worth applauding.”

—Billy Collins

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Josh Sapan is a long-time media executive. He lives in NYC with his family where he has walked every bridge in Manhattan and operates a small movie theater in Greenport, NY.



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FROM RX

The wind pauses
to listen
to night quiet
glancing inside windows
where large screens
out of earshot
glow like silent films.

Harry's shirt was distracted from his trousers.
Blue and white oxford stripes
sailing free in a ten-knot wind
around the office.

Harry was a new kind of superman.
Just Clark Kent:
no glasses, no costumes.

The planet turns
suspiciously
glancing up, down, around
looking for scarlet
on clouds,
specks on the moon
in the mirror.

Now nine months three days in
the crows gone south,
the big white moon
slips
to the other side
of the planet
The growing hedge
exhales.

The radio
plays
a world
far away.
No one knocks
on the door.
The lights
in the houses
across the harbor
turn off.
The space
between us
narrows.



poems

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