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POETRY

# REVERSE ENGINEER

by Kate Colby

\$17.00 paperback 6 x 9 inches 71 pages

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In her ninth book of poetry, Kate Colby continues her excavation of the unknown, “the key to which breaks / the lock by breaking in it.” Operating at the junctures of perception and sensation, philosophy and grief, *Reverse Engineer* explores the deep recesses of human experience where conventional language doesn’t quite reach.

Kate Colby’s eight previous books of poetry and prose include *I Mean* and *Dream of the Trenches*. She has received awards and fellowships from the Poetry Society of America, Rhode Island State Council for the Arts, the Dodd Research Center at University of Connecticut, and Harvard’s Woodberry Poetry Room. She lives in Providence.

## Praise for Reverse Engineer

Informed by contemporary physics and by epistemology, *Reverse Engineer* is a book about what defies description and eludes understanding. Kate Colby acknowledges this conundrum. Thinking about the self and the universe, we tie ourselves in knots. A poem may be such a knot—or so Colby suggests: “A poem’s a Rube Goldberg doo- / hickey to elicit a flicker—I die / while I’m writing, if as yet not / of it.” I think I will always remember these lines, this flicker.

—Rae Armantrout, author of *Finalists*

*Reverse Engineer* is full of daisy-chained aphorisms apophatically accounting for what thinking is like (“a simile works / like this”), extending beyond sense so that sensation gets severely enjambed, and I get to feeling, “I am what’s needed / of my own erasure.” I love how Kate Colby’s poems hurt “me.”

—Aditi Machado, author of *Emporium*

An independent publisher of poetry that runs counter to the mainstream, Ornithopter Press has published individual collections by contemporary authors since 2014.

*Reverse Engineer* will be distributed by Ingram.

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