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ADVANCE PRESS RELEASE: Fall 2022

POETRY

[a go]

by Gabrielle Joy Lessans

\$18.00 paperback 7.5 x 9.25 inches 87 pages
ISBN 978-1-942723-13-4 pub. date: 11/1/2022

In her second full-length poetry collection, Gabrielle Joy Lessans takes us on a sonic and spatial exploration of relationships between self & friend, lover, spirit, void. *[a go]* gives shape and sound to the flowing forward of a revelatory moment in time as experienced by a devoted witness uncertain of anything but her own sincerity. A preoccupation with the dharma and a kabbalistic interplay of nothingness/somethingness pervades Lessans's yearning, questioning, open-field text that returns frequently to themes of ecosystem, friendship, solitude, embrace of ever-shifting being, and ecstatic experience.

Gabrielle Joy Lessans is an experimental poet whose writing orients towards the hearth where deep play & healing most intersect. She lives in Denver, Colorado with her husband, son, dog & cat, leading creative workshops, teaching yoga, and writing. She received her BA in Literature from Duke University and her MFA from Naropa's Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics, where she worked with the poetics of friendship, trauma, and memory. Gabrielle's first book *Bread Of* (Ornithopter Press) and a collaborative chapbook *[Re]Collection of the [Un]Likely* (Trainwreck Press) were published in 2021.

Praise for *[a go]* :

Thinking & feeling through open-field composition, and by sounding the depths & complexities residing within ellipsis, grammatical prepositions, and further intersections of syntax & time—like the knots of a net seeking to catch the wind—*[a go]* takes its place in the Objectivist line of poetics. *[a go]* is shot-through with a sense of multiple crises, of the subject pressed to the limit, but finding precisely at that limit the secret of lyric: "I // is enough // lonely // as: a"

The world as habitable and constitutive of human flourishing may be passing away—is it already gone, or never was—and *[a go]* is haunted by this crisis of era of ecological disappearance: "I saw cities turn to sand dunes once at // once all // atoms." The text of these poems often approach total atomization, yet strain, and hold together as constellations of affect, sensuous perception, documents of a vernacular now, and the traces of experience of embodied mind. *[a go]* is a book of beautiful straining pitched into the rough passage of the world.

—Jeffrey Pethybridge, author of *Striven, The Bright Treatise*

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

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