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the BOAhemian

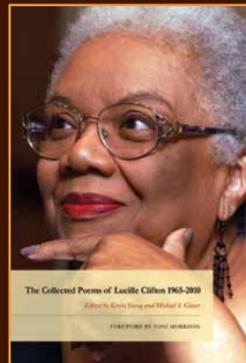
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BOA's Featured Titles

BOA's Fall 2012 titles are now available for sale at our secure online bookstore.

The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010

**Edited by Kevin Young and Michael S. Glaser
With a Foreword by Toni Morrison**



Called "the most important book of poetry to appear in years" by *Publishers Weekly*, this landmark collection is the culmination of a 40-year career by one of America's most revered poets. The collection combines all of Lucille Clifton's published poetry with previously unpublished poems. This volume is a must-have for all of Ms. Clifton's fans—past, present, and future.

[The Clifton Collection available here](#)

To Keep Love Blurry

Poems by Craig Morgan Teicher



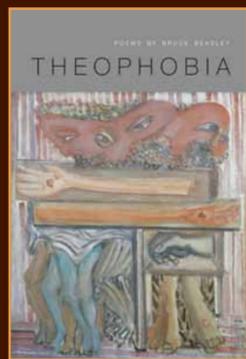
Inspired by Robert Lowell's *Life Studies*, Craig Morgan Teicher's *To Keep Love Blurry* is an exploration of the charged and troubled spaces between intimately connected people: husbands and wives, parents and children, writers and readers. *Library Journal*

says of the collection: "The majority of poems in this new work from Teicher... employ form in the best sense of the word— as a frame, not a crutch... When at his best, Teicher's poems are formal and—as a welcome bonus—amusing."

[To Keep Love Blurry available here](#)

Theophobia

Poems by Bruce Beasley



Bruce Beasley's *Theophobia* forms a deviating pilgrimage through science, history, politics, and popular culture. A *Publishers Weekly* Starred Review says of *Theophobia*: "Beasley outdoes his five prior collections with this spiky, thoughtful, elaborate, sometimes

scary, sometimes funny set of verse essays, riffs, and meditations on the idea of a Christian creator-god, and on ideas from evolutionary and molecular biology about how life comes to be..."

[Theophobia available here](#)

Lee Upton Wins 2012 BOA Short Fiction Prize

We are proud to announce that Lee Upton is the winner of the 2nd Annual BOA Short Fiction Prize for her collection *The Tao of Humiliation*. After receiving nearly 100 manuscripts, the collection was selected from among four finalists by BOA Publisher and contest judge Peter Conners. Upton's collection will be published by BOA in Spring 2014.

Of the collection, Conners says, "What impressed me most about Lee Upton's debut short story collection is her ability to peel back layers of experience, revealing the complexity of human emotion buried in even our simplest interactions. Upton tells a great story, yes, but she never bows to easy answers or pre-packaged characterizations. Instead, she offers up stories with true depth, insight, and enough twists to keep any reader enthralled. To write with such skill and sensitivity takes great life experience and the patience of a master writer."



The three other finalists selected were *The Dwindlers* by Maureen O'Brien; *A Tour of North American Ruins* by Dan Moreau; and *Kingdom of the Sun* by James Terry.

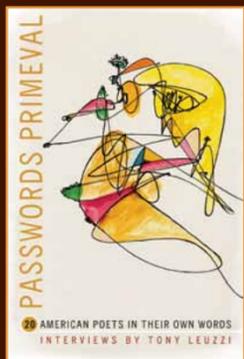
Upon learning that she had won the BOA Short Fiction Prize, Upton said, "I'm so happy (beyond happy) to have BOA's support and to know that my stories will be published by BOA." She expressed that she is "delighted...that the collection will have such a distinguished, exciting, and warm home."

The BOA Short Fiction Prize was established in 2010 as a way to further BOA's Mission to bring high quality literature to the public. According to Publisher Peter Conners, "BOA strives to seek out and support writing that falls through the cracks of mainstream, corporate publishing. Short fiction is, perhaps, more under-served than even poetry in the realm of literary publishing. As an organization, BOA recognized the need to put this important literary genre back on the table and to support authors who have innovative approaches to writing short fiction."

The BOA Short Fiction Prize recognizes outstanding short story collections by writers at any stage of their career with book publication and a \$500 honorarium. This spring, BOA will release the first award-winning collection *The Era of Not Quite* by Douglas Watson. Christine Schutt says of the collection: "Herein find fiction full of whimsy, wit, hurt, and terror. Wicked, as in wickedly funny, is in the mix, too, along with a prose style both seductive and sly. Any one of these stories can mend a broken world."

We are thrilled to welcome Lee Upton to the BOA family. Upton is the author of twelve books, including: the collection of essays *Swallowing the Sea: On Writing & Ambition, Boredom, Purity, & Secrecy*; the novella *The Guide to the Flying Island*; five books of poetry, including *Undid in the Land of Undone*; and four books of literary criticism. She is the recipient of many awards including the Lyric Poetry Award and The Writer/Emily Dickinson Award from the Poetry Society of America; the Pushcart Prize; the National Poetry Series Award; and the Miami University Novella Award. She is the Writer-in-Residence and a professor of English at Lafayette College.

Passwords Primeval:
20 American Poets in Their Own Words
Interviews by Tony Leuzzi

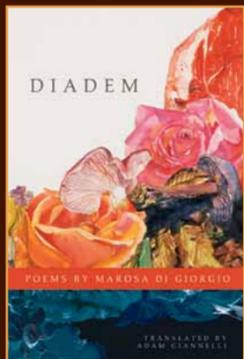


Passwords Primeval sets aside the artificial boundaries of poetry "schools" and "movements" to cut to the art of the matter. These interviews draw new insights from such luminaries as Billy Collins, Gerald Stern, Jane Hirshfield, Patricia Smith, and Martín

Espada, offering a candid look at craft, inspiration, and living as a poet. This eclectic roster of poets is a revelation of the enormous breadth of American poetry.

[Passwords Primeval available here](#)

Diadem: Selected Poems
Poems by Marosa di Giorgio
Translated by Adam Giannelli



Marosa di Giorgio has one of the most distinct and recognizable voices in Latin American poetry. Her surreal and fable-like prose poems invite comparison to Kafka, Cortázar, and even contemporary American poets Russell Edson and Charles Simic; but di Giorgio's voice, imagery, themes—childhood, the Uruguayan countryside, a perception of the sacred—are her own.

[Diadem available here](#)

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Lannan



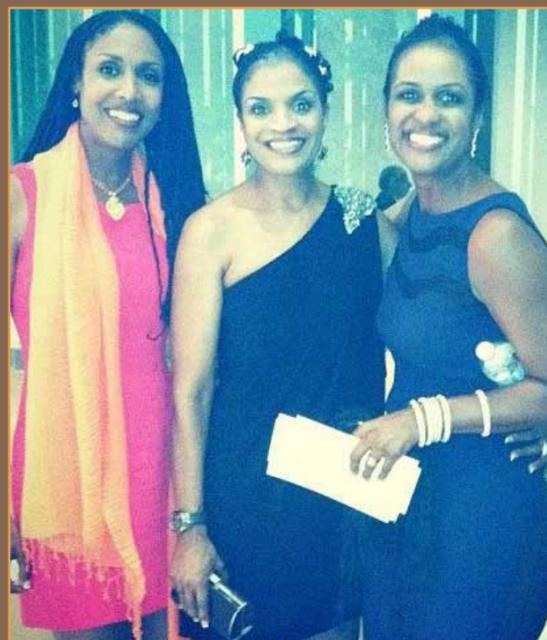
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"Like us," follow us, keep in touch



Reflections on Good Times and a Good Woman: Words from BOA Board Chair Bernadette Catalana

September brought the event, the moment, the dream, that all of us at BOA have been waiting for—the publication of *The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010*. The term "highly anticipated" is an understatement! A great deal of effort and action went into "birthing" this book, particularly on the part of Publisher Peter Conners, Development Director Melissa Hall, Associate Director for Marketing and Production Jenna Fuller, BOA's wonderful interns, and the eclectic group Peter lovingly dubbed "Team Clifton." In addition to overt action, there was also a lot of internal dreaming and hoping and sending signals out into the universe during the two years that changed the idea of the book into the book, realized. After all the work was done, there was only one thing left to do—party! On September 20, the Poetry Foundation hosted a "Lucille Clifton Tribute and Book Launch" in Chicago to celebrate with us (and Lucille).



Lucille's beautiful daughters at the Book Launch event in Chicago. [From left]: Sidney, Alexia, and Gillian. Photo by Bernadette Catalana.

Just like any good journey, getting there was half the fun. A group of us, including Honorary Vice Chair Boo Poulin, flew out of Buffalo for the festivities. We all agreed to the challenge of taking the train into Chicago from the airport (we *are* a not-for-profit, after all). Easier said than done, as O'Hare is not simple to navigate, but we were soon helped by a knowledgeable airport employee, who seemed to appear out of nowhere and who provided us with the perfect directions to the train. When I glanced at his name tag, I was not one bit surprised that it read "Clifton." Someone was watching out for us!

The event was first-class. Held in the stunning building that houses the Poetry Foundation, the evening included tributes to Lucille by some of the most prominent names in the poetry world: Li-Young Lee, Elise Paschen, Kevin Young, and Michael S. Glaser. Their readings and reflections on Lucille and her work were personal and moving. The program ended with a group tribute from Lucille's daughters Gillian, Alexia, and Sidney. While they too highlighted various works by their gifted mother, perhaps more distinct about their part was their admiration for her as "Mommy." The name Lucille means "light." It was obvious from their heartfelt words that she served that purpose for her daughters, who referred to her as a "magical mother." As tears flowed freely down my face, I was inspired, not to write poetry, but to be a magical, though ordinary, good woman. The evening continued with a lovely reception and the chance for BOA to meet with and thank our supporters, including Lannan Foundation representatives Jo Chapman, Program Director, and several board and Lannan family members.

Just like the image of boats being sent out into open water in Lucille's "blessing the boats," the festivities at the Poetry Foundation launched us into a weekend full of BOA activity, including BOA's 15th Annual Dine & Rhyme event in Rochester on September 23. Poets Dorianne Laux and Nin Andrews, (whom everyone in my house nicknamed "Naughty Nin" after her poetry reading), were our honored guests at the wonderful event. I had the additional pleasure of hosting Nin through the event weekend. We did things that longtime friends do when catching up over a weekend visit: we drank tea, we drank wine, we shared meals, we shared laughs. I came to the conclusion that we had known each other all along, we just hadn't met yet.

Dorianne and Nin read their own poetry along with personal selections from Lucille's work for Dine & Rhyme. Dorianne, who had a personal history with Lucille, shared some of her poignant memories with the audience. Both Dorianne and Nin are continuing the legacy established by Lucille and other talented poets of the BOA family. We were blessed to have them with us for Dine & Rhyme and look forward to their carrying the torch into the future.

Reflecting back on that weekend, this year, the book, and of course, the woman Lucille Clifton, I say what I am known to repeat: it's "all good." And it is.

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BOA's Mission

BOA Editions, Ltd., a not-for-profit publisher of poetry and other literary works, fosters readership and appreciation of contemporary literature. By identifying, cultivating, and publishing both new and established poets and selecting authors of unique literary talent, BOA brings high quality literature to the public.

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