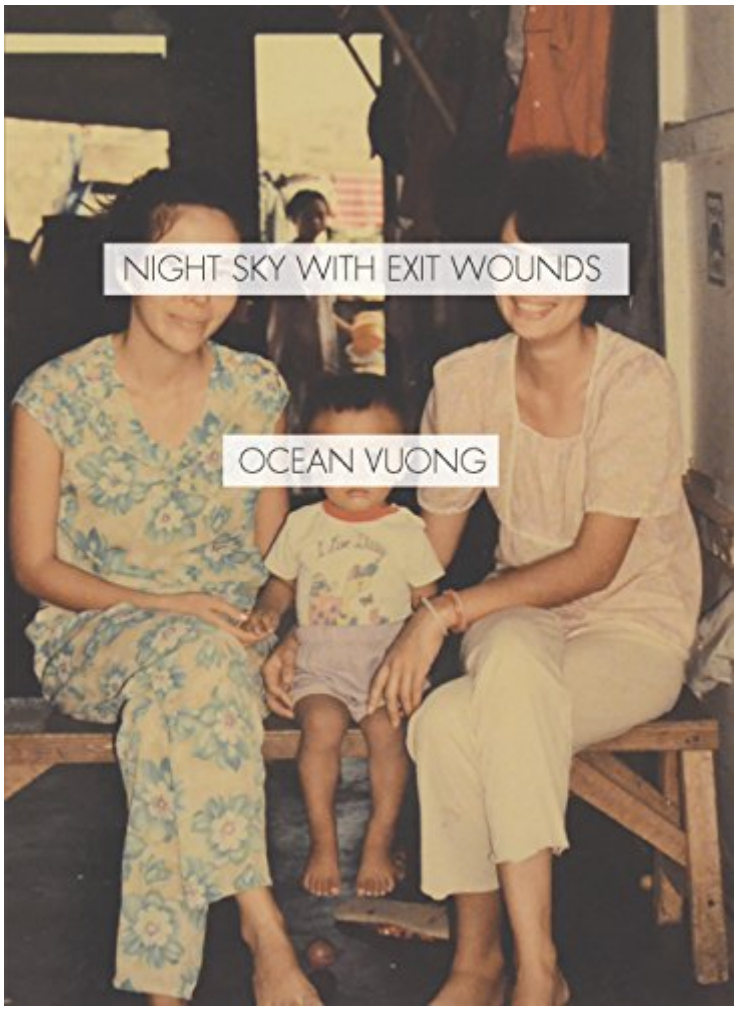
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Night Sky With Exit Wounds



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Synopsis

Winner of the 2016 Whiting AwardOne of Publishers Weekly’s "Most Anticipated Books of Spring 2016"One of Lit Hub’s "10 must-read poetry collections for April"“Reading Vuong is like watching a fish move: he manages the varied currents of English with muscled intuition. His poems are by turns graceful and wonderstruck. His lines are both long and short, his pose narrative and lyric, his diction formal and insouciant. From the outside, Vuong has fashioned a poetry of inclusion.Ã¢â ¬Â•—The New Yorker"Night Sky with Exit Wounds establishes Vuong as a fierce new talent to be reckoned with...This book is a masterpiece that captures, with elegance, the raw sorrows and joys of human existence."—Buzzfeed’s "Most Exciting New Books of 2016""This original, sprightly wordsmith of tumbling pulsing phrases pushes poetry to a new level...A stunning introduction to a young poet who writes with both assurance and vulnerability. Visceral, tender and lyrical, fleet and agile, these poems unflinchingly face the legacies of violence and cultural displacement but they also assume a position of wonder before the world.Ã¢â ¬Â•—2016 Whiting Award citation"Night Sky with Exit Wounds is the kind of book that soon becomes worn with love. You will want to crease every page to come back to it, to underline every other line because each word resonates with power."—LitHub"VuongÃ¢â ¬â„¢s powerful voice explores passion, violence, history, identity—all with a tremendous humanity."—Slate“In his impressive debut collection, Vuong, a 2014 Ruth Lilly fellow, writes beauty into—and culls from—individual, familial, and historical traumas. Vuong exists as both observer and observed throughout the book as he explores deeply personal themes such as poverty, depression, queer sexuality, domestic abuse, and the various forms of violence inflicted on his family during the Vietnam War. Poems float and strike in equal measure as the poet strives to transform pain into clarity. Managing this balance becomes the crux of the collection, as when he writes, ‘Your father is only your father/ until one of you forgets. Like how the spine/ wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t remember its wings/ no matter how many times our knees/ kiss the pavement.Ã¢â ¬â„¢Ã¢â ¬Â•—Publishers Weekly"What a treasure [Ocean Vuong] is to us. What a perfume he’s crushed and rendered of his heart and soul. What a gift this book is."—Li-Young LeeTorso of AirSuppose you do change your life.& the body is more thana portion of night—sealedwith bruises. Suppose you woke& found your shadow replacedby a black wolf. The boy, beautiful & gone. So you take the knife to the wallinstead. You carve & carveuntil a coin of light appears& you get to look in, at last,on happiness. The eyestaring back from the other side—waiting.Born in Saigon, Vietnam, Ocean Vuong attended Brooklyn College. He is the author of two chapbooks as well as a full-length collection, Night Sky with Exit Wounds. A

2014 Ruth Lilly Fellow and winner of the 2016 Whiting Award, Ocean Vuong lives in New York City, New York.

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Customer Reviews

Really a transcendent collection from a poet with incredible attention to form and language. I reach for this book often; for inspiration, for emotion, and just to feel the energy Vuong’s words vibrate with.

The title drew me in when I saw it in the NY Times. I ordered it for more than the title as I am becoming afan of poetry.The author uses many fascinating and creative ideas and thoughts.

Good with the exception of a one or two poems that seem to come out of the blue and disrupt the flow of the book.

This book makes me want to weep fiercely and then look at myself in the mirror and think how hope will save us all

Best new book of poems I've read in a long time. Def. worth your time!

Dark but engaging!

Undoubtedly the best book of poetry I have ever read. Vuong's creative form and distinctly beautiful description make this an absolute pleasure to read.

Rewarding from the start, I will read over and over. Describing his life as a refugee, to a country that might not accept him now was bittersweet. Trying to find my way in his poetry has given me some perspective on that struggle.

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