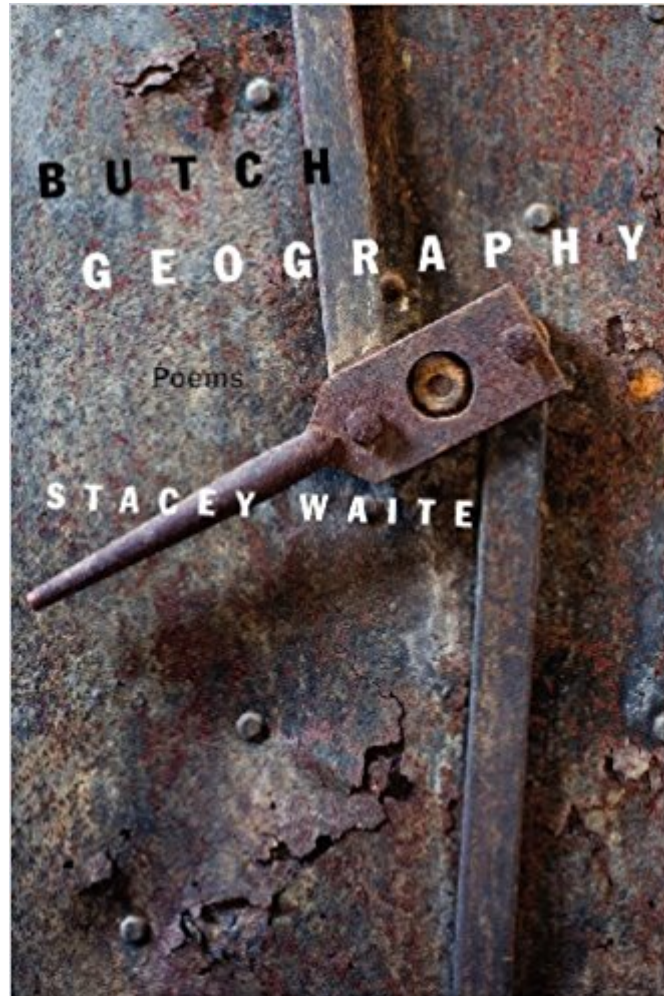




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Synopsis

In her Los Angeles Review of Books essay "Who Is Who: Pronouns, Gender, and Merging Selves," Dana Levin describes Stacey Waite's fusion of gender identities: "Pseudonyms, heteronyms, personae, all the ventriloquizing literary arts; point of view and tonal shifts: these are tools for speakers and speaking. But the sentence too has a voice: 'i will not be the kind of boy who can not bear the memory of her body' . . . This is [Waite's] genius . . . to take innocuous syntactical phrasing and change the players mid-sentence -- to get around English's pronominal either/or by creating a syntactical both/and. . . ."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"In this arresting collection, Stacey Waite is a pathfinder, charting with disarming honesty, humor, pathos and willful perplexity the uncertain terrain of gender in ways that shatter assumptions, unsettle easy presumptions, and yet, through the sheer grace of her craft and deft language, that open us to the beauty of our strange human enterprise." -- Kwame Dawes
--Advance Praise

Stacey Waite is the author of three collections of poems: *Choke* (winner of the 2004 Frank O'Hara Prize), *Love Poem to Androgyny* (Main Street Rag, 2007), and *the lake has no saint* (winner of Tupelo Press's 2008 Snowbound Chapbook Award). With both an M.F.A. in poetry and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Pittsburgh, Waite now teaches courses in writing, gender studies, and

pedagogy as an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

A most wonderful poetry collection - it works on many levels. Both an intimate, lyrical inquiry into the world's most tender topics, and a self-exploration, a triumph of an identity in the world of archetypes. A must-read for modern poetry lovers and anyone who cares about LGBT issues - and a double gift at that.

Great concept. However, unfortunately disappointing quality of poems. I'd recommend Ivan Coyote or Bear Bergman instead.

I chose this rating because it was an entertaining interesting read, it was just hard to understand the start of the book on who is who.

The stories of gender identity in this book would take over the book in the hands of a less-skilled writer, but Stacey Waite matches the stories and then some by finding the perfect words to artistically bring them to life for a reader. As if growing up isn't already difficult enough, Waite tells stories of growing up with an identity that can be hard to identify in our this-or-that world, telling them with the humor and gravity needed to make them seem like our own.

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