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Works And Days

Bernadette Mayer



Works & Days



Synopsis

A brand spanking new collection, *Works and Days* is classic Bernadette Mayer: fresh, learned, exciting, and endlessly surprising. Part springtime journal ("why are there thorns?"), *Works and Days* meditates on the first wasps and chipmunks of the season, time's passage, grackle hearts, and dandelions, while also collecting dozens of poems considering the Catholic Church, Sir Thomas Browne, "Go Away" welcome mats, books, floods ("never of dollar money"), the invention of words, local politics, friendships, property development, dogs, and Hesiod. Every page delights. As the poet herself notes: "My name is Bernadette Mayer, sometimes / I am at the head of my class."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Works and Days" is a great addition to Bernadette Mayer's body of work. The book works as (in a nod to Hesiod's "Works and Days") a kind of farmer's almanac. Intertwined among the poems, Mayer chronicles each day of Spring. From March to June, Mayer notes the weather, sounds, shapes, political events: the everyday insignificant (or maybe not insignificant) events that shape her life in upstate New York. Her chronicling gives the reader insight into the strange but always though-provoking connections made by her poetry. (like: "Be wary of them, of getting mail from a bank And a flyer from the dollar store In which everything is more than a dollar Except sardines, I don't even have a bank Account but I saw a rainbow in the woods once")

No frills, mo' thrills! Bernadette don't chill. Soul. This is what's missing from the news and

politics won't fix. Swoops from easy read to English as a foreign language. She broadcasts loud and clear across the whole bandwidth of tomorrow's poetic skill. I want a dark chocolate truffle/To bolster my reading of the book/About grave-robbing and phrenology • I need a budot clawr rwalc turopo urpot oporut • Also note this book cover's cool beauty by Seton Smith makes it a perfect gift.

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