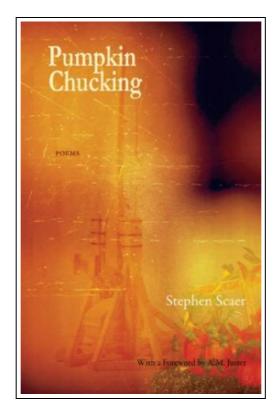
Pumpkin Chucking: Poems



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Reviews

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(Luciano Von III)

PUMPKIN CHUCKING: POEMS



Able Muse Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 90 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 6.0in. x 0.4in. Stephen Scaers Pumpkin Chucking is a harvest of wit and enlightenment, gleaned from everyday situations. Scaer shows impressive formal dexterity, and inventive use of nonce and received formssonnet, double-dactyl, Old-English-style alliterative meter; he turns the limerick on its head as it transforms into a humor-laden meditative tool in sequences such as Mid-Life Limericks and Classical Limericks. Scaers delivery is immediate, simple but never simplistic, laying bare the human condition to reveal that The triumphs that we seek are held for their own sake, and shower us with grace like petals on the grass. This finalist for the 2012 Able Muse Book Award is a rare achievement in its deft marriage of the lighthearted and sublime. It is a book to relish from start to finish. PRAISE FOR PUMPKIN CHUCKING: Right from the opening sonnet in Pumpkin Chucking, the poignant Hannah at Ten, youll recognize Scaer as an outstanding lyric poet. But the prevailing voice in this collection belongs to a hugely entertaining, middle-aged, middle-class Everyman writing about the everyday. Take the lifeguard, sung in Old-English-style alliterative meterwhistle-whirler, Thane of the Poconos. Or the Hercules who can divert rivers into Augean stables with no hassles from the EPA. (And both of these pale compared to Scaers Classical Limericks.) Some of the poems are exquisitely lyrical: Light Box, Raspberry Patch, Long Trail. Still, what you take away from the book is Scaers deadpan humora wit thats wicked but not mean. Often as not, the speaker is himself the target. And the more the guy makes fun of himself, the more we love him. He speaks for us all. Deborah Warren Stephen Scaers Pumpkin Chucking celebrates the New England landscape while still being universal... and...



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