



# Red Light Lit Press ANNOUNCES

## LOVE IS THE DRUG & OTHER DARK POEMS

### A POETRY ANTHOLOGY

**Released July 15, 2018**

Red Light Lit's debut poetry anthology explores love, relationships, sexuality, and gender—and the corporeal space they inhabit. *Love Is the Drug & Other Dark Poems* features the work of 33 poets and 8 artists, each revealing the raw spectrum of the human experience that is both familiar and intriguing, comforting and thrilling, startling and validating. These diverse voices express the complexities of intimacy and identity in our modern life.

### ADVANCE PRAISE

"*Love Is the Drug* is so shimmering and personal. These little moments when we achieve, with the aid of another, some kind of sublime, and time and space sort of dissolve and we're right where it feels we're meant to live—those little moments are quick sparkles, these efforts to pin them down in poetry feel as sweaty and muscular, as desperate and full of passion, as the sex itself. Each one a little flare, a little death, an *I was here*."

—MICHELLE TEA, author of *Against Memoir* and *Black Wave*

"Infinitely readable!"

—CARL ADAMSHICK, author of *Saint Friend*

"Within this book lives the profound work of pain turned into poetry, and that poetry, into power. These poems hold the best, most beautiful, brutal, sharp, and tender words of these wise and generous writers. My gratitude for their brilliance and generosity is endless. Elixir and companion, keep this book close. Let it leave your side only so that it may be shared with others."

—REEMA ZAMAN, author of *I Am Yours*

"Poetry is my first love, and with this spectacular collection, I am reminded why. The aliveness I felt as I read each complex and unique piece in this book had me shaking my fist at the sky with knowing, had me tearing up, had me excited, had me heartbroken, had me undone. This book is the drug, this book is the love, this book is life."

—JENNIFER PASTILOFF, author of *On Being Human*

"In love, we are on drugs, and out of love we crave the next hit. Maybe that's why there's so much sugar in these pages, sweets and syrups employed as metaphor for what the Beloved withholds, the drug to set the lover free. Reader, prick up your ears! A choir of unruly, ardent, and embodied poems is singing."

—LISA WELLS, author of *The Fix*

LOVE IS THE DRUG & OTHER DARK POEMS  
A POETRY ANTHOLOGY



### BOOK DETAILS

Pub Date: July 15, 2018

Available through Amazon, Powell's, Ingram, Barnes & Noble, and elsewhere

\$16.00 • Trade paperback  
ISBN: 978-0-9998895-0-3

90 pages • 6" x 9"

B&W illustrations & photographs  
Cover photo by Lucille Lares-Kiwan

### CONTACT & INQUIRIES

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### ABOUT RED LIGHT LIT PRESS

Red Light Lit is devoted to writers, artists, and musicians who explore love, relationships, sexuality, and gender. Since its founding in 2013, it has published 10 literary journals, produced over 50 live shows (including in Austin, Chicago, Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, and Seattle), and created a podcast. *Love Is the Drug & Other Dark Poems* is Red Light Lit's first book of poetry.



# LOVE IS THE DRUG & OTHER DARK POEMS

## *A POETRY ANTHOLOGY*

Edited by Jessie Carver & Jennifer Lewis • Red Light Lit Press  
July 15, 2018 • \$16.00 • Trade paperback • ISBN: 978-0-9998895-0-3  
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### ADVANCE PRAISE *cont'd*

“Reader beware: These audacious, daring, often heartbreaking poems will shove love, with all its messy, unwieldy glory, in your face. This astonishing collection explores the underbelly of love from remarkably divergent perspectives. Yet each poet in some way posits the question: How can love survive in today’s world, with its high expectations and infinite distractions? These poems, and the edgy art that accompanies them, go a long way toward answering that question.”

—ALEXIS RHONE FANCHER, author of *Junkie Wife*



### BOOK TOUR INCLUDES:

#### Chicago, IL

July 15, 2018 • Ace Hotel

#### San Francisco, CA

July 19, 2018 • The Lost Church

#### Palm Springs, CA

July 27, 2018 • Ace Hotel & Swim Club

#### Joshua Tree, CA

July 28, 2018 • Furstworld

#### Los Angeles, CA

August 3, 2018 • Art Share L.A.

#### Portland, OR

August 9, 2018 • The Liquor Store

### BOOK CONTRIBUTORS

Fisayo Adeyeye • Lisa Alden  
Tod Brilliant • Hannah Burgos  
Jessie Carver • Lara Coley  
Devin Copeland • Cassandra Dallett  
Allyson Darling • Shelbie Dimond  
Josey Rose Duncan • Amber Flame  
Trever Hadley • Anthony J. Hall  
Jackie Hancock • Hollie Hardy  
Philip Harris • Nick Jaina  
Aubrey Janelle • Miah Jeffra  
Kar Johnson • Sarah Kobrinsky  
Kelsey Kundera • Lucille Lares-Kiwan  
Jiajing Liu • Chris Mancari  
Loria Mendoza • Monique Mero  
Tomas Moniz • Sarah Bethel Nelson  
kiki nicole • Christine No  
Bradley Penner • Emily Pinkerton  
Baruch Porrás-Hernández • B.B. Queen  
Kimberly Reyes • Riss Rosado  
Tara Rose • Kristina Ten • Amos White



# New anthology tours the US with poetry, art and live music

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • From Red Light Lit Press • Available July 15, 2018**

**For press inquiries, contact Jennifer Lewis: 415-377-0203 or [jennifer@redlightlit.com](mailto:jennifer@redlightlit.com)**

**SAN FRANCISCO, June 2018** — Red Light Lit Press has released its debut poetry anthology, *Love Is the Drug & Other Dark Poems*, which features the compelling work of 33 poets and 8 artists. Particularly in our current sociopolitical landscape, this book offers a meaningful reminder of the importance of love, identity and sexuality; the corporeal space they inhabit; and the central role these aspects play in our humanity.

With a captivating urgency, *Love Is the Drug* exposes the intimate, sometimes darker intricacies of navigating relationships, loss and everything in between. “As a queer woman, it was important to me that this anthology contained a range of perspectives and voices extending across many sexual orientations, gender identities, ethnicities and lived experiences,” notes editor Jessie Carver. These poems emerge from diverse communities of writers across the country, many of whom know and inspire each other.

After curating more than 50 literary events spanning the United States, Red Light Lit is taking *Love Is the Drug & Other Dark Poems* on tour. The anthology’s poets and artists are presenting their work in new shows — including in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Ore. and Chicago — with live scores and musical guests that bring a dynamic, exhilarating dimension to the book.

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## LOVE IS THE DRUG & OTHER DARK POEMS

A POETRY ANTHOLOGY



EDITED BY JESSIE CARVER & JENNIFER LEWIS



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