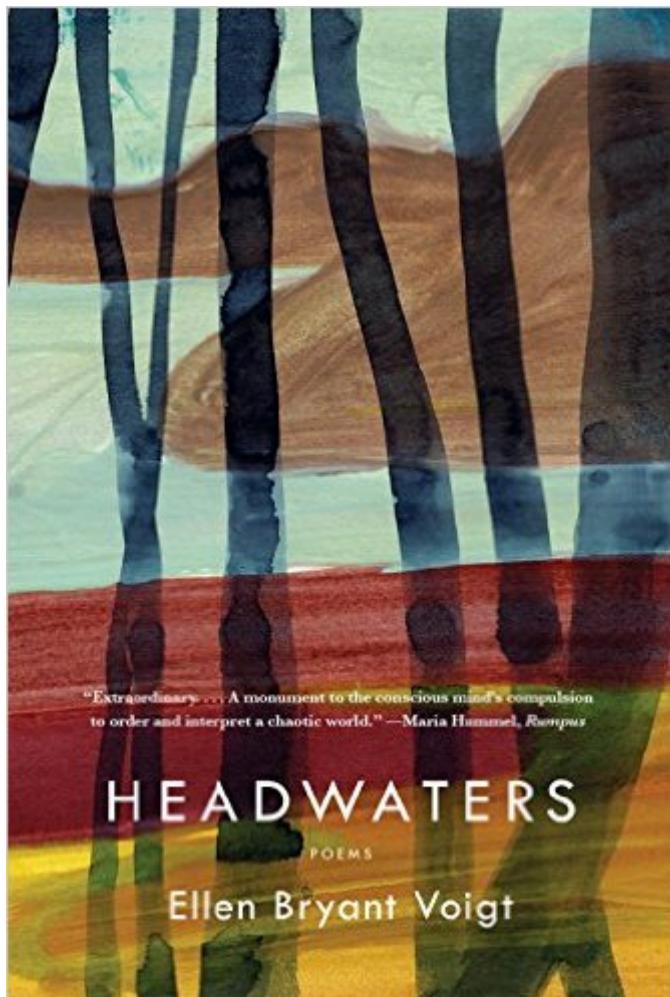


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Headwaters: Poems



Synopsis

âœLuminous. . . . Each reading reveals the tug of opposites, and in this tension the poet shows her brilliance.â •â •Library Journal, starred review Rash yet tender, chastened yet lush, Headwaters is a book of opposites, a book of wild abandon by one of the most formally exacting poets of our time. Animals populate its pagesâ •owl, groundhog, fox, each with its own inimitable survival skillsâ •and the poet who so meticulously observes their behaviors has accumulated a lifetimeâ ™s worth of skills herself: she too has survived. The power of these extraordinary poems lies in their recognition that all our experience is ultimately uselessâ •that human beings are at every moment beginners, facing the earth as if for the first time. "Donâ ™t you think Iâ ™m doing better," asks the first poem. "You got sick you got well you got sick," says the last. Eschewing punctuation, forgoing every symmetry, the poems hurl themselves forward, driven by an urgent need to speak. Headwaters is a book of wisdom that refuses to be wise, a book of fresh beginnings by an American poet writing at the height of her powers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

You might not expect it from a poet who has been writing for over forty years but EBV's latest collection feels remarkably contemporary. These poems are extraordinary in that they feel both restrained and expansive, both vulnerable and wry. Some of these poems are so piercing, so sonically astonishing, that their music will follow you around the house like a shadow, like a long-forgotten friend, like the home-coming you never knew you yearned for. EBV writes the lore for

us, we are compelled to live it.

Ellen Bryant Voigt is a national treasure. This new book is in some (intriguing) ways a bit of a departure, but as with her every new effort, she knocks it out of the park. A must for poetry lovers. Sydney Lea

Ellen Bryant Voigt has once again reinvented herself in her poetry. This book is filled with music, description and emotion as depicted through her descriptions of various animals & their actions. She ends her poems by inserting human emotion that comments on various life circumstances. In addition to being a master teacher Voigt is here a master poet. I recommend this book not only to lovers of poetry but to anyone wishing a wonderful read.

I enjoyed the book a lot. It was a very intriguing read. I would definitely recommend it to other people.

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