

Winner of the Michael Marks Publishers' Award 2022
Nibbies Small Press of the Year Midlands Finalist 2023
'The very best of contemporary poetry.' The Book Hive, Norwich
'Consistently publishing the best new poets in the country.' Roger Robinson

**BAD
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PRESS**

ADVANCE
INFORMATION

INHERITANCE

JASMINE COORAY

INHERITANCE | JASMINE COORAY | 20.11.23
978-1-913268-50-3 | PB | B-FORMAT | 84PP
POETRY | BIC: DCF | £10.99

'A strident, playful language dance through life's more challenging parts, always towards something transcendent.'

Anthony Joseph
Winner of the T S Eliot Prize 2022

The first collection by poet, psychotherapist and BBC Performing Arts Fellow, Jasmine Cooray, *Inheritance* is a profoundly moving exploration of what is passed down by our forebearers, what is left behind when we lose someone, and what we learn from being loved.

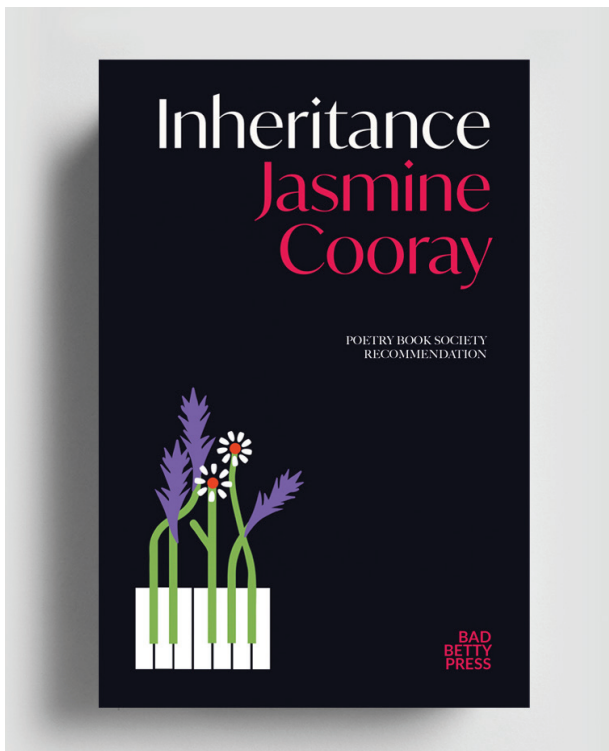
Cooray holds our most fiercely-guarded myths to the light, refracted through second-generation diaspora, family legend and life-changing loss. Her poems sing of self-belief rising to the surface as drowning feels imminent, of desire and how it means hope. A timeless debut: wise, wild and empowering, a lodestar for survival.

Lately we seem

*to find flowers in unexpected places:
sunflowers blooming from club speakers,*

*lavender sprouting between piano keys,
a black cat collared with daisies*

*and when we, who miss you, embrace,
petals explode between our chests.*



POETRY BOOK SOCIETY RECOMMENDATION

**LEAD TITLE IN BAD BETTY'S LIVE POETRY
UK TOUR - AUTUMN 2023**



Jasmine Cooray is a poet, psychotherapist, WOW Festival speaker, BBC Performing Arts Fellow and former National University of Singapore Writer-in-Residence. She has delivered projects for the Barbican, the Southbank Centre, First Story, the Arvon Foundation and the National Literacy Trust.

Orders: orders@centralbooks.com
Enquiries: info@badbettypress.com

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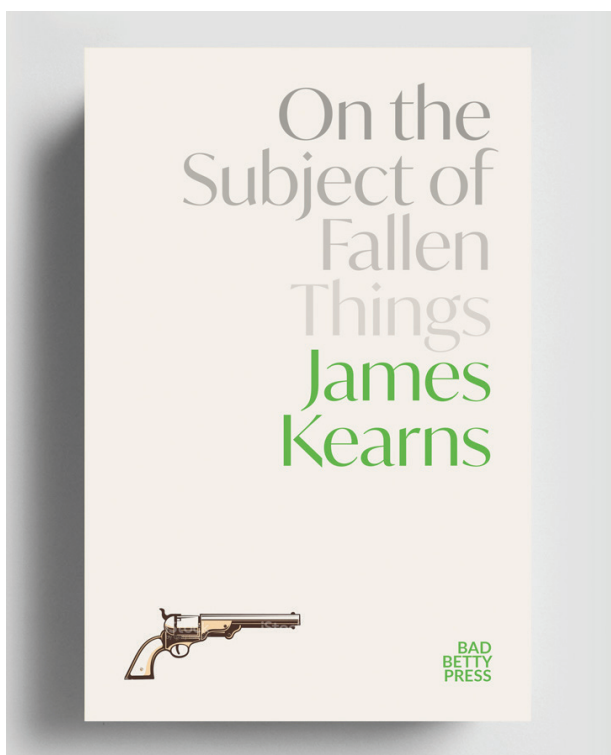
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ON THE SUBJECT OF FALLEN THINGS

JAMES KEARNS



**LEAD TITLE IN BAD BETTY'S LIVE POETRY
UK TOUR - AUTUMN 2023**



James Kearns is a poet based in Birmingham and Cape Town. He won a Streetcake Magazine Prize for Experimental Writing and his pamphlet *After Words* featured in Ghost City Press's 2022 Summer Series. *On The Subject of Fallen Things* is his first collection.

ON THE SUBJECT OF FALLEN THINGS
JAMES KEARNS | POETRY | 28.11.23
978-1-913268-52-7 | PB | B-FORMAT | 84PP
BIC: DCF | £10.99

'Hugely enjoyable, each line aggregating weight like the lightness of snowflakes gathering into an avalanche. Get it now.'

Roger Robinson
T S Eliot and Ondaatje Prize winning poet

On the Subject of Fallen Things is an addictive, Chekhovian metanarrative: phenomenological, absurd, and dripping with black humour.

James Kearns' speaker keeps company with Lazarus, an inept psychic, and a deceased superhero, but finds himself increasingly alone—lost in dialogue with mortality. Permanence, culpability, the function and corruption of human storytelling: all come into play in a surge of momentum that grips the reader, even as it breaks apart: a lean explosion, a gunshot in the distance.

*you start every new day with an inventory:
a moth, a cape, a parachute, a coffin, a gun,
the wall you built to mount the gun.*

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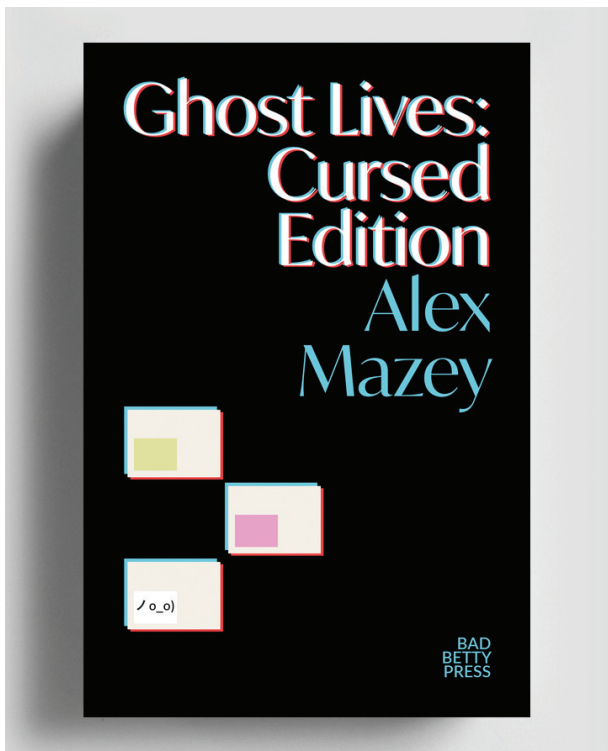
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GHOST LIVES: CURSED EDITION ALEX MAZEY



GHOST LIVES: CURSED EDITION
ALEX MAZEY | POETRY & COMIC | 28.03.24
978-1-913268-56-5 | PB | B-FORMAT | 114PP
BIC/THEMA: DCF | £10.99

Alex Mazey's playful text art sequence follows Ghost through a hyperreal metropolis beset with neoliberal temptation and eschatological peril. Woven between the visuals are virtuosic lyric poems: poignant, philosophical and irreverent. Mazey gamifies this astute, genre-defying collection with an intricate plexus of symbolism, mysticism, numerology, reference and ritual. Haunting and haunted, Ghost Lives paints an eerily recognisable picture of how it feels to be lonely, or, in other words, to be human.

This is Ghost → /o_o)

**LEAD TITLE IN BAD BETTY'S LIVE POETRY
UK TOUR - SPRING 2024**



Alex Mazey won The Roy Fisher Prize from Keele University in 2018 and was the recipient of a Creative Future Writers' Award in 2019. He is a contributing researcher for the academic journal, *Baudrillard Now* and author of *Living in Disneyland* and *Sad Boy Aesthetics*.

*I have shaken a hand on you,
down bad, deep alone, loose as rope
around a frozen lake as forsaken
as anything heavenly. Night
by the wake rests our trust of holy
bones and faint hope. A shaken
land where love hearts kill the rain
in me. Keep my soul safe here
and I promise to do the same.*

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ARE YOU THERE SAMANTHA FAIN

ARE YOU THERE | SAMANTHA FAIN | 25.04.24
978-1-913268-54-1 | PB | B-FORMAT | 72PP
POETRY | BIC: DCF | £10.99

'These poems are like Neosporin;
they sting and they heal.'

Raphael Bob-Waksberg
Creator of BoJack Horseman

In *Are You There*, Indiana poet Samantha Fain refracts contemporary melancholia into iridescent lyricism. Fain delights in breaking rules, the serendipity of autocorrect incantations, testing how far, in space and time, a connection will travel, and where it ends—quoting sources including Schrödinger, Ask Jeeves and Kim Kardashian. In Fain's haunting poetics, grief, mania, pop culture, faith, quantum physics and digital relationships collide, alive with the spiky humour of brutal self-awareness, aglow with startling new language.



**LEAD TITLE IN BAD BETTY'S LIVE POETRY
UK TOUR - SPRING 2024**



Samantha (Sam) Fain is a poet from Indiana, and author of chapbooks *Coughing Up Planets* (VA Press) and *sad horse music* (The Daily Drunk), translated as *Música de Caballo Triste* by Catalina Ponce of *Cicada Editora*. Sam is co-editor of *Kiss Your Darlings: A Taylor Swift Anthology*. *Are You There* is her debut full-length collection. Find her at samanthafain.com.

schrödinger writes to einstein in his letters:

i am so lonely looking at atoms.

[no] answer.

;

on my bad days, i exist

in double-states—awestruck

by my wreckage. i sit

radioactively. always the same outcome:

i wait for you to write me.

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