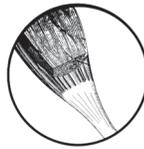


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PRESS RELEASE

NEW MICHIGAN PRESS IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE RELEASE of Jennifer Moss's *Beast, to Be Your Friend*, a finalist in the 2008 New Michigan Press/DIAGRAM Chapbook Contest.

This chapbook is a strange beast indeed. Beautiful and odd in equal measure, these poems charm, are charms themselves collected on a string, shining, shrinking, shirking all of their duties, opting instead for play. They make up a tiny bestiary (birds, goats, calves, cows, centaurs, octopi, zebras, dogs, and more) and court the darkness under everything. The chapbook is available by mail, at excellent independent booksellers, at Amazon, or best, from the NMP storefront at: newmichiganpress.com/nmp.

JENNIFER MOSS was born in Spokane, Washington. She received a BA from Grinnell College and an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. She currently lives in Seattle. Her poems have appeared in *Pleiades*, *Indiana Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Image*, and *Conduit*, among other journals, and she has received grants from the Washington State Artist Trust, as well as a Literary Artist Award from the Seattle Arts Commission.

Jennifer Moss's *Beast, to Be Your Friend*. NMP, 2009. Perfect-bound, 48pp. ISBN 978-1-934832-19-6. For more information (or for bookstore orders), email New Michigan Press at nmp@thediagram.com or check out the website (above).

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01 JANUARY 2009

THREE OCTOPI

Three octopi on a platter of ice.
Six aristocratic eyes.
Raise the cutlery and slice.

—How was your life?
—Green and wide.
—Will the sky die? Will it break like glass?
—We are just three octopi.

Three octopi on a platter of ice.
They are glistening, preposterous and smooth.
Through the windows the mountains are precise.

