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Atomic Bombs, Hip-Hop, and Taxidermy

LSU Press to Publish New Collections from Kelly Cherry, Derrick Harriell, and Anna Journey

Baton Rouge—This February, LSU Press will publish veteran poet Kelly Cherry's poetic meditation on J. Robert Oppenheimer; Derrick Harriell's exploration of the life of a Midwestern black man transported to the Deep South; and Anna Journey's surreal explorations of the small details of her world.

Kelly Cherry's *Quartet for J. Robert Oppenheimer* records in poetry the life and times of one of America's best-known scientists, the father of the atomic bomb who later lobbied for containment of nuclear weaponry. In brief, elegant stanzas, Kelly Cherry examines Oppenheimer's inspirations, dreams, and values, visiting the events, places, and people that inspired him or led him to despair. Again and again in the course of this remarkable poem, Cherry's narration of Oppenheimer's life compels her readers to contemplate the vagaries of science, guilt, and our responsibilities to each other.

Kelly Cherry is the author of over twenty-five books of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. She is Eudora Welty Professor Emerita of English and Evjue-Bascom Professor Emerita in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

1 February 2017 / 160 pages, 6 x 9 / 978-0-8071-6504-1
Paper \$21.95 / LSU Press Paperback Original / Poetry

The percussive poems of *Stripper in Wonderland* move from birth to death, funk to hip-hop, and racism to religion as Derrick Harriell explores the life of a modern black man transplanted from the American Midwest to the Deep South. Harriell summons the ghosts of the past as he deals with the realities of the present. He carefully winds images and words together to produce powerful, often graphic, poems that inform our view of one another as they punch through our assumptions.

Originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, **Derrick Harriell** directs the Master of Fine Arts program at the University of Mississippi, where he is also assistant professor of English and African American studies.

6 February 2017 / 72 pages, 6 x 9 / 978-0-8071-6552-2
Paper \$17.95 / LSU Press Paperback Original / Poetry

In her third collection of poems, *The Atheist Wore Goat Silk*, Anna Journey once again celebrates the profusion of sensuality erupting from the material world. As she weaves dark fables, luminous family memories, and hard-edged personal tales into a singular fabric, Journey charts the boundaries of absence and departure, delineating the separations that we often hope to stitch back together at the intersections of the body and the imagination. Rhythmically charged and lyrically narrative, these poems are rich with verbal cascades and currents of mordant reflections.

Anna Journey is the author of the poetry collections *Vulgar Remedies* and *If Birds Gather Your Hair for Nesting*, which was selected by Thomas Lux for the National Poetry Series, and the essay collection *An Arrangement of Skin*.

2 February 2017 / 96 pages, 5½ x 8½ / 978-0-8071-6568-3
Paper \$19.95 / LSU Press Paperback Original / Poetry

To request review copies or set up an interview with the poets,
please contact Jenny Keegan at jenniferkeegan@lsu.edu.

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