



Octopodiformes as
Language
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The Olive Reading Series

Tuesday December 13, 2016, 7:00 pm

The Almanac Gastropub and Cocktails 10351 82 Ave

END
OF
THE
WORLD
EVER

Andy Weaver

Andy Weaver has published three books of poetry, most recently *this* (Chaudiere, 2015). Now 45, he understands his chances of being drafted by the Boston Bruins are slim enough that he will keep his day job at York University, where he teaches contemporary American and Canadian poetry.

A long time ago, he lived in Edmonton; he still misses the winters there. The poems in this chapbook are from a manuscript in progress, entitled Octopoesis.

What is The Olive?

Since the dawn of the new millennium, poetry lovers in Edmonton, Alberta, have gathered on the second Tuesday of the month from September to April, to enjoy featured poets from Edmonton and across the country, as well as across the globe. The Olive Editorial Board also publishes a complimentary chapbook for each reading.

Featured poets have included:

Bert Almon, Doug Barbour, Gary Barwin, Kimmy Beach, Derek Beaulieu, Ken Belford, Sheri Benning, E.D. Blodgett, George Bowering, Tim Bowling, Stephen Brockwell, Brea Burton, Jenna Butler, Louis Cabri, Angela Carr, Jason Christie, Dennis Cooley, Olga Costopoulos, T.L. Cowan, Joan Crate, Wayne Defehr, Jason Dewinetz, Adam Dickinson, Marilyn Dumont, Amatoritsero Ede, Hiromi Goto, Jill Hartman, Gerald Hill, Karen Houle, Jocko, Robert Kroetsch, Shawna Lemay, Kath MacLean, Alice Major, Lisa Martin-DeMoor, Suzette Mayr, Rhona McAdam, Wendy McGrath, Don McKay, K.L. McKay, rob mclennan, Anna Mioduchowska, Shani Mootoo, Erin Mouré, David O'Meara, Nduka Otiono, Catherine Owen, Chris Pannell, Leslie Peterson, M Pigeon, Sina Queyras, Jordan Scott, Barb Simler, Sue Sinclair, Karen Solie, Christine Stewart, Sharon Thesen, Russel Thornton, **Andy Weaver**, Christine Wiesenthal, Rachel Zolf.

Our current editorial board is:

Douglas Barbour
Thea Bowering
Jenna Butler
Claire Kelly
Lainna Lane El Jabi
Wendy McGrath
Paul Pearson

tO feel the live
present Canny and now
wavering Tremblers playing
such sOuciant and chalant
harP-strings the lithe
cUrrant calibrating the array
of a diSbanded conductor

Phoenix
has vanquished
that ancient enemy, Sphinx.
H.D., *Helen in Egypt*, p94

but octopus eclipses the sun
eight arms dragging it
to a watery nest--where
it still burns, four arms
always adding fuel, four
always dousing flames.
Of the giant head,
a glorious knowing
unknown, unknown
knowing

evolution is possible
only so long as what
evolves does not
know of evolution

knowledge / stasis



Now I have nothing left and will not survive. Freed from the
promises of what I was, my old longing rises, a raised cup from
a hand that trembles, where sight itself is a brim of water
surrounded by waters of what it does not see.

Robert Duncan, "Structure of Rime XIX"

with naught remaining i will expire immediately. from what i was
the pledges dismissed, my aged desire rises, a raised cup
from a shuddering hand, where vision itself
is a brimming wine ringed by wines Of
impressions
Un
Seen



Ode
transubstantiated Colour waves as
fleshed light prepares
a supple canvas On which it writes arcane essays
addressing and undressing a Poetics that rhymes itself to all
matters met with humble yet
Skillful flexibility



Oulipo
unbalanceCed
poeTry
cOnstraining
Parole
Until it
Squirted ink



each inarticulate articulation independently
adapting all the while mimicking
and manipulating
a space every caress apprehends and changes constantly
shaping the whole yet
constantly Unaware of the whole
Shape



i believe that the words
we declare form and are formed by
a vital pillar
Of ethical stance
they enact and shape how we relate to the world
each tongue a tentacle in the eddying flow
bending to the current while it bends the current



an immanent form at play
displays language's denial transcending all
The while what we wished
were as simple as one straight line
Pointing in one direction
but even that clear-cut line
balances at the needletip knitting here and there

