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OKAY COOL NO SMOKING LOVE PONY

poems by
Annik Adey-Babinski

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POETRY

A debut collection that explores what it means to live in America today, Okay Cool No Smoking Love Pony weaves its spell with selfies, videos, road trips, farm memories, and broken-glass alleys, all unmistakably part of our national identity.

Says Campbell McGrath, “Expect an onrush of energetic language in a dazzle of forms. Adey-Babinski examines modern American life in a voice by turns whimsical, sensual, and dreamily hypnotic...These poems are roomy, fulsome, action-packed and delightful.”

Chloe Garcia Roberts describes the book as “a travelogue of open roads and wilderness, the loneliness of rural backwaters and the squalid company of the metropolis, the heartbreak of the actual and the terror of the imagined; it is poetry as wide as America the place and America the emotion.”

The collection is personal as well as political. Roberts explains: “Revolting against her injustices, her loves, and her traumas, which bind her as implacably as Persephone’s pomegranate seeds to the hollowness of the remembered, Adey-Babinski forges onward, writing her escape, her after-story, and ultimately her transcendence along currents of the fantastic and surreal. This book is an odyssey of hope and becoming, an argument for inhabiting and succumbing to the cambium of magic that can be found just beneath our collective mundane.”

Annik Adey-Babinski grew up in Ottawa, Canada. She has received fellowships from the Banff Center and The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Her poetry has appeared in Forklift, Ohio, Prelude, and the Best New Poets series. Her poems were published in the Jai-Alai Books anthology Eight Miami Poets. She is a technical writer in Miami, Florida.

Okay Cool No Smoking Love Pony is recommended for a general adult audience. Copies may be ordered from Small Press Distribution or Ingram, or at wordworkbooks.org.