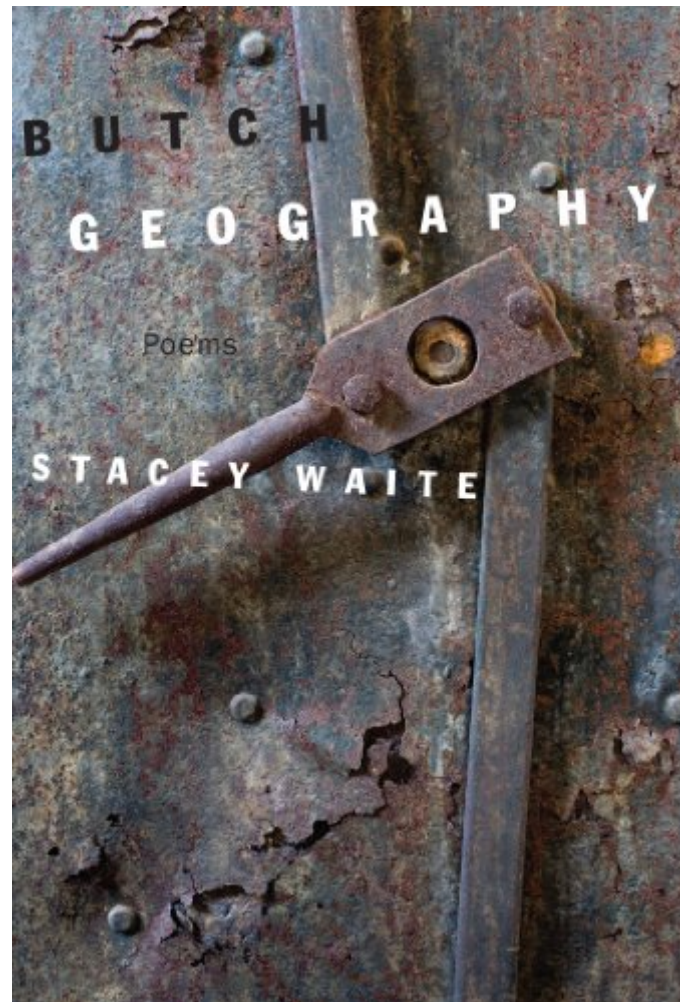


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# Butch Geography: Poems



## Synopsis

In her *Los Angeles Review of Books* essay "Who Is Who: Pronouns, Gender, and Merging Selves," Dana Levin describes Stacey Waite's fusion of gender identities: "Pseudonyms, heteronyms, personae, all the ventriloquizing literary arts; point of view and tonal shifts: these are tools for speakers and speaking. But the sentence too has a voice: 'I will not be the kind of boy who can not bear the memory of her body' ... This is [Waite's] genius ... to take innocuous syntactical phrasing and change the players mid-sentence " to get around English's pronominal either/or by creating a syntactical both/and..."

In this arresting collection, Stacey Waite is a pathfinder, charting with disarming honesty, humor, pathos and willful perplexity the uncertain terrain of gender in ways that shatter assumptions, unsettle easy presumptions, and yet, through the sheer grace of her craft and deft language, that open us to the beauty of our strange human enterprise.

— Kwame Dawes

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A most wonderful poetry collection - it works on many levels. Both an intimate, lyrical inquiry into the world's most tender topics, and a self-exploration, a triumph of an identity in the world of archetypes.

A must-read for modern poetry lovers and anyone who cares about LGBT issues - and a double gift at that.

The stories of gender identity in this book would take over the book in the hands of a less-skilled writer, but Stacey Waite matches the stories and then some by finding the perfect words to artistically bring them to life for a reader. As if growing up isn't already difficult enough, Waite tells stories of growing up with an identity that can be hard to identify in our this-or-that world, telling them with the humor and gravity needed to make them seem like our own.

Great concept. However, unfortunately disappointing quality of poems. I'd recommend Ivan Coyote or Bear Bergman instead.

I chose this rating because it was an entertaining interesting read, it was just hard to understand the start of the book on who is who.

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