

The Endarkenment: A Literary Journey into the Abyss of Pitt Poetry Series

The Pitt Poetry Series, established in 1945, stands as a venerable institution in the literary landscape, renowned for its unwavering commitment to fostering the voices of contemporary poets. Over the decades, the series has published a stellar roster of poets, including Pulitzer Prize winners, National Book Award recipients, and MacArthur Fellows. These poets have pushed the boundaries of poetic expression, exploring the depths of human experience and challenging our understanding of the world.

In recent years, the Pitt Poetry Series has embarked on a bold new era, embracing the concept of "The Endarkenment." This term, coined by series editor Kevin Quashi, encapsulates the belief that poetry can illuminate the shadows and complexities of our time, offering glimmers of hope and insight amidst the darkness.

The Endarkenment is not a rejection of the light but rather an acknowledgment of the darkness that pervades our modern world. It is a recognition that the challenges we face—social, political, and environmental—demand a nuanced and unflinching examination. Through the lens of poetry, the Endarkenment seeks to explore the depths of these shadows, to understand their origins, and to find ways to reconcile with them.

The Endarkenment (Pitt Poetry Series) by Jeffrey McDaniel

★★★★★ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English



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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Screen Reader : Supported



The poets featured in the Endarkenment series embody the spirit of this movement. They are artists who confront the darkness head-on, unafraid to delve into the complexities and contradictions of human nature. Their work grapples with themes of trauma, loss, displacement, and the search for meaning in an increasingly uncertain world.

Some of the notable poets associated with the Endarkenment include:

- **Ada Limón:** Pulitzer Prize-winning poet whose work explores themes of grief, memory, and the natural world.
- **Ocean Vuong:** National Book Award-winning poet whose work examines the experiences of immigrants, refugees, and LGBTQ+ individuals.
- **Tracy K. Smith:** Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and former United States Poet Laureate whose work explores themes of history, identity, and the power of language.
- **Don Mee Choi:** Korean-American poet whose work confronts the horrors of the Korean War and its lasting impact on her family.

- **Justin Phillip Reed:** Cave Canem fellow whose work explores themes of race, masculinity, and the complexities of Black identity.

The Endarkenment has had a profound impact on the literary landscape. It has expanded the boundaries of poetry, challenging traditional notions of form and content. The poets of the Endarkenment have created a new space for dialogue, inviting readers to confront the darkness of our time with honesty, compassion, and a willingness to embrace complexity.

The series has also played a vital role in fostering a new generation of poets. Through its workshops, readings, and mentorship programs, the Pitt Poetry Series has provided emerging poets with the support and guidance they need to develop their craft and find their own voices.

The Endarkenment Pitt Poetry Series is a testament to the power of poetry to illuminate the darkness. Through its unwavering commitment to artistic excellence and its exploration of the complexities of our time, the series continues to inspire and challenge readers, offering a profound and unforgettable literary experience.

A group of people gathered at a reading, listening intently to a poet reading from their work. The atmosphere is intimate and engaging, with the light from the reading lamp illuminating the faces of the audience.



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