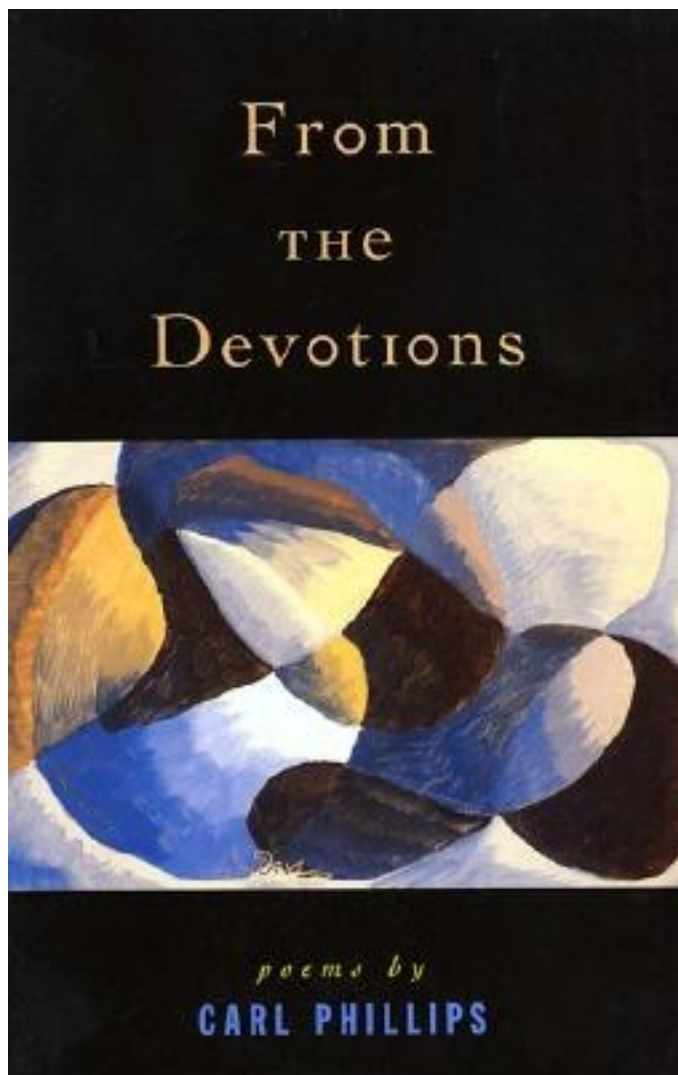


From the Devotions



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著者:Phillips, Carl

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From Library Journal Phillips's reputation has been growing, and this third collection confirms him as one of the best poets writing in America today. In quintessentially lyric verse, he investigates love in all its ramifications, both physical and spiritual, and the devastating consequences of its loss. "He constantly reaches for universal truths, ' then rotates them slightly in blinding light until they crystallize into personal reflections, " observed LJ's reviewer. The result is intense communion between poet and reader that remains long after the book is closed. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From The Boston Review These graceful, magical lyrics should confirm Phillips's well-deserved reputation for exploring the spaces, moods, and metamorphoses of desire. Gathering energy from forms like the alba, and a witty classicism apparent in his "Renderings" of Anacreontic fragments, the poet arranges in his characteristically small, precious stanzas the gently persistent longings of the body, as in "The Sybil" where he self-consciously contributes a "third gate" through which dreams come: "the flesh, what / cannot help but / fail, come bone // come shine." Other poems pay homage to domesticity, and are populated with animals--deer, horses, bees, the luna moth--whose needs, hopes, and hungers are cleverly mapped onto the poet's own. Witness this from "On Restraint": "One would like nothing / more than to forget it all: how beautiful he was then, like a man, not a horse. / --but very like a horse, how he ran." The last section moves from the gods of the living to the remains of the body in death, where Borges, Dante, Isaiah, and even fellow riders on "The Flume" at an amusement park provide haunting devices, especially in the bitter, astounding title poem, through which flesh becomes ash. Copyright © 1996, Boston Review. All rights reserved. See all Editorial Reviews

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目录:

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卡尔菲利普斯

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