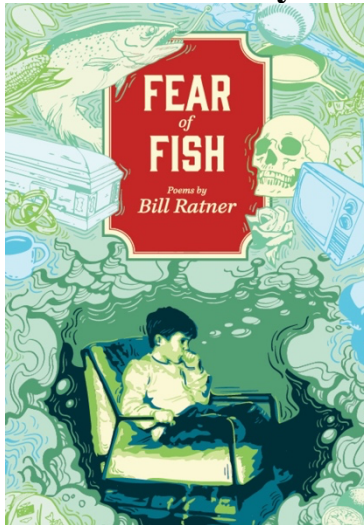


PRESS RELEASE

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Alien Buddha Press is pleased to announce the publication of:
***Fear of Fish* • Poems by Bill Ratner**



“Like a good storyteller, Ratner sidles up to you, whispers the opening of a tale, then brings in the big guns of poetry to make it all work. These poems are masterful, touching, evocative, and Ratner himself is a master-builder at work, a man who shapes words out of airy nothing and commands them to speak.”

— Jack Grapes, *Last of the Outsiders*, Chatwin Press

Synopsis:

Fear of Fish, published by Alien Buddha Press, is Bill Ratner’s first full-length collection of poems. They address the issues of grief, loss, search for identity, and the nexus of psychology and gender politics, written in a lyrical, surrealistic, sometimes humorous, ironic style. NYQ Books poet and Cultural Daily Poetry Editor Alexis Rhone Fancher writes about ***Fear of Fish***, “Whether mourning the early demise of his beloved parents and older brother or riffing on being the one left behind to come of age on his own, Ratner’s poems find life’s humor and sweetness. They kick off their shoes and dance with Death.”

Alien Buddha Press

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Bill Ratner's work is published in *Best Small Fictions 2021*—Sonder Press, chapbook: *To Decorate a Casket*—Finishing Line Press, full-length collection: *Fear of Fish*—Alien Buddha Press, Chiron Review, Baltimore Review, FeminineCollective.com, Rattle Magazine's Rattlecast, *Sh!t Men Say to Me*—Moon Tide Press, Missouri Review Audio, and other journals. Bill is a Poets & Writers Readings and Workshops Grant recipient, 9-time winner of The Moth Story Slam, 2-time winner of *Best of The Hollywood Fringe Extension Award for Solo Performance*. His readings are featured on National Public Radio's *Good Food*, *The Business*, and KCRW's *Strangers*. He is a certified volunteer grief counsellor and earns his living as a voice actor. He is the author of *Parenting for the Digital Age: The Truth About Media's Effect on Children* from Familius Books, and he teaches poetry and storytelling for the Los Angeles School District and voiceover for the Screen Actors Guild Foundation.

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