

VERGE

MORGAN LUCAS SCHULDT

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DESCRIPTION

The poems in Morgan Lucas Schuldt's debut collection, *VERGE*, speak at once both brokenly and reparably of the body, of its lusts and devotions, its violences and "satisfactions." Schuldt's lyrics exploit the phonetic suppleness of the English language in a way that teases out (mischievously so, earnestly so) an ecstatic, carnal, tender kind of poetics that pays homage—in both name and spirit—to poets like Hopkins, Celan, Crane and Berryman, as well as ekphrastically to painters Francis Bacon, Joan Miro, and Hieronymous Bosch.

With *VERGE*, Morgan Lucas Schuldt voices a radical corporality, raw-nerved and searing, in sleight-of-language play and pure sound as deft and inventive as that of Joyce and Mallarmé. This is a rare and profound achievement: the body at the level of the phoneme, a gestural and musical dance of flesh, and an altogether new work.

—Carolyn Forché

VERGE is a concise and unsettling ride along the boundary between life and death. Through careful lyric gestures and Joycian guttural utterances, Schuldt's poems linger at the verges of the body and the breath, all along reminding the reader that the language of poetry depends upon our "meat-leased" fragile corporeal forms.

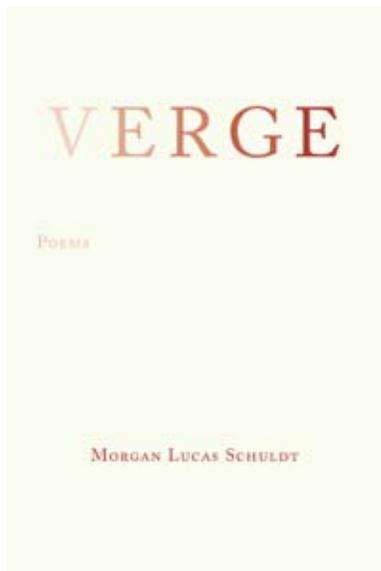
—Lisa Jarnot

With its ceaseless invention, root-play, and wit, *VERGE* paces a vaulting "overtakelessness." It is a fast shining careen, affirming "meanings sing us" in its swervings.

—Karen Volkman

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A graduate from the University of Arizona's MFA program, Morgan Lucas Schuldt lives in Tucson where he edits the literary journal *CUE*.



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