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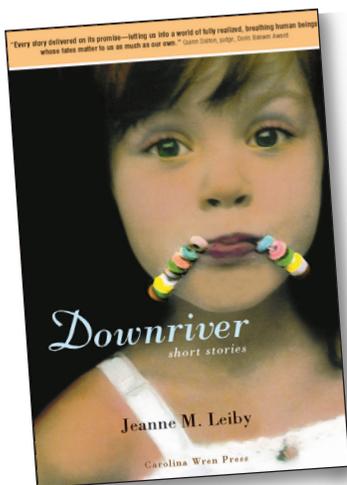


Carolina Wren Press announces the publication of:

Downriver

Short Stories
by Jeanne Leiby

ISBN 978-0-932112-55-2
\$14.95 paperback,
164 pp.



JEANNE LEIBY grew up downriver Detroit. She graduated from the University of Michigan, earned her MA from the Bread Loaf School of English/Middlebury

College, and her MFA from the University of Alabama. Her stories, many of them collected here, have appeared in *Fiction*, *New Orleans Review*, *The Greensboro Review*, and *Indiana Review*, among others. For ten years, she has lived in Orlando, Florida, teaching creative writing at the University of Central Florida and editing *The Florida Review*. In 2008, she will move to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as an associate professor of English at Louisiana State University and editor of *The Southern Review*.



PHOTO: KRISTA GUENIN

ABOUT THE PRESS Carolina Wren Press publishes poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and children's books (under its Lollipop Power imprint). As our mission (*new authors, new audiences*) suggests, the Press is committed to an ever-growing vision of the audience for, and the producers of, contemporary literature.

Advance Praise for *Downriver*

"These eleven stories are fueled by a robust mix of voices—children, young women, mothers, fathers—all of whom are driven to survive past losses or the overwhelming challenges of their present circumstances.

"Within this collection, I had my favorites, but every story delivered on its promise—to let us into a world of fully realized, breathing human beings whose lives might be different from ours in the details, but whose hopes and fears we recognize, and whose fates matter to us as much as our own.

"Another pleasure of this book was the precision of the language, the tight and natural dialogue, simple on the surface yet rich with subtext. I didn't want to stop reading, and when I had to, I went back as soon as I could—as we do with any place we love to visit." —QUINN DALTON, judge, Doris Bakwin Award

"*Downriver* is cloud of coal dust, a river in the shadow of the Enrico Fermi Cooling Plant. There's beauty to found in slag and ruined rivers; there's much that we who've lived in these places carry with us. Maybe sometimes we want to say *I'm from someplace else*. But we know in our hearts that Detroit, Gary, or Pittsburgh are places of beauty too. Leiby says, 'Watch the smokestack flames perpetually burning off methane gases like the eternal flame, and then you tell me this place doesn't look like the Emerald City.' It does; I've seen it." —RICK CAMPBELL

"I love the sharp edges of Jeanne Leiby's tightly packed stories, and how she brings out the dignity of these hard lives without romanticizing or sentimentalizing her characters. Nothing is free or easy in these stories, but there is no self-pity. In a working-class world of seen and unseen boundaries, bargains are struck, compromises are made, secrets are kept, all in the name of survival. We can all learn a lot about getting by from the gritty characters populating the community of this rich, unforgettable collection." —JIM DANIELS

"Jeanne Leiby's beautifully tough-minded prose conveys an essential truth about life downriver from the quintessential American city. Her truth has an eerie ring to it in 2008, when most of America is being swept farther and farther downriver from the dreams of our parents and grandparents." —DAVID HUDDLE



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