



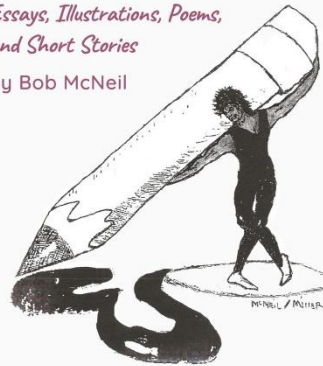
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COMPOSITIONS ON COMPASSION AND OTHER EMOTIONS

*Essays, Illustrations, Poems,
and Short Stories*

by Bob McNeil



Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions By Bob McNeil

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Deeply personal while completely universal, celebrated poet, essayist, and artist Bob McNeil explores the importance of love and hope in healing from the pandemic and society's endemic violence.

But perhaps most of all, *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions* explores our collective mortality. McNeil's latest collection was conceived when bedridden with a collapsed lung endangering his heart. Faced with the prospect of imminent death, "I culled some of my writing and illustrations in my mind. All in the hope of leaving some kind of testimonial behind."

As a result, *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions* is a stunning collection that urgently demonstrates both McNeil's creative range and his vision for a more peaceful, loving world. While holding a mirror up to himself and his possible fate, he also holds a mirror up to us all, exploring love and loss in all their complexity, contradictions, and beauty.

In the end, the book is not a requiem but a vision of a better world, one that McNeil holds onto with all his might.

“Those emotions provide nutrients to those who crave optimism. Throughout these times of countless tragedies, we must try to love others with ardor.”

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

“Prepare to be moved, inspired, and forever changed by Bob McNeil’s extraordinary work. Dive into this enchanting journey and rediscover the power of words to touch our hearts and souls in profound ways.”—CJ Ives Lopez, the Author’s Porch

“This collection is a treasure for all of us.”—Afaa M. Weaver, author of *A Fire in the Hills*

“...An intellectual, poetic journey through the mind of a thinker. Bob McNeil navigates a runaway train through the neighborhood of our existence.”—Abiodun Oyewole, author of *The Last Poets*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bob McNeil is a writer, editor, and spoken word artist. He served as editor and contributor for *Lyrics of Mature Hearts* (2020), and he is the author of *Verses of Realness* (2018), which Hal Sirowitz called “A fantastic trip through the mind of a poet who doesn’t flinch at the truth.” McNeil hails from Queens, New York, and currently lives in Connecticut.

ABOUT FLEXIBLE PRESS

Flexible Press began in 2017 and has quickly become a traditional publisher of excellent, well-crafted literature. Along the way, we have focused on supporting a variety of causes and under-represented voices, in the belief that at its best literature is often a catalyst for change. For us, this means bringing forward both topics that need to be aired and voices that need to be heard. www.flexiblepub.com

A portion of the proceeds of *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions* go to National Alliance to End Homelessness. The Alliance is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States. <https://endhomelessness.org/>