

Graywolf Press announces



**THE LONG MEADOW by Vijay Seshadri**

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Winner of the **2003 James Laughlin Award**, Vijay Seshadri's extraordinary second collection, **THE LONG MEADOW (May 2004)**, looks into and through our troubled world by means of a poetic sensibility that transforms history into metaphysics and disaster into possibility.

"Grave and witty, classical and contemporary, *The Long Meadow* is a casually brilliant collection of poems. Vijay Seshadri is a writer of subtle, elastic and unblinking intelligence. . . . Thematically, Seshadri asks big questions and addresses big issues—time and consciousness, suffering and devotion—but for all their deep seriousness of purpose, his poems refuse to take themselves too seriously. . . . Profound and delightful, *The Long Meadow* well deserves the high distinction bestowed upon it by the James Laughlin Award." —**Statement from Campbell McGrath, head juror for James Laughlin Award**

"What a deeply moving, eloquent, huge-hearted, and razor-eyed (not to mention brilliantly crafted) book *The Long Meadow* is!" —**Thomas Lux**

Vijay Seshadri's first collection of poems, *Wild Kingdom*, was celebrated as one of the most exciting debuts in years. In *The Long Meadow*, Seshadri presents a brilliant array of formally inventive and emotionally powerful new poems in which the poet's wit and vivacity are poised against the alarming complexities of human experience. Through disparate forms and strategies, from the long narrative and the brief rhyming lyric to the prose meditation, *The Long Meadow* looks into and through our troubled world by means of a poetic sensibility that transforms history into metaphysics and disaster into possibility. Here is the voice of one of contemporary poetry's new masters.

"In a compassionate, perceptive spirit, Seshadri offers us works that belong among the broadest, most intelligent new poetry of this decade." —**Publishers Weekly** (starred review) for *Wild Kingdom*

**Vijay Seshadri** is the author of *Wild Kingdom*. His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, and in *Best American Poetry*. He was born in India and currently lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Poetry, 72 pages, 6 x 9, Cloth (1-55597-400-7), \$20.00, **May**

**Early Praise for *THE LONG MEADOW*:**

Grave and witty, classical and contemporary, *The Long Meadow* is a casually brilliant collection of poems. Vijay Seshadri is a writer of subtle, elastic and unblinking intelligence. . . . Thematically, Seshadri asks big questions and addresses big issues—time and consciousness, suffering and devotion—but for all their deep seriousness of purpose, his poems refuse to take themselves too seriously. . . . Profound and delightful, *The Long Meadow* well deserves the high distinction bestowed upon it by the James Laughlin Award. —**Campbell McGrath, head juror for James Laughlin Award**

“What a deeply moving, eloquent, huge-hearted and razor-eyed (not to mention brilliantly crafted) book *The Long Meadow* is!” —**Thom Gunn**

**Praise for *WILD KINGDOM*:**

“Seshadri is a son of Frost by way of Ashbery: both the high-frequency channels of consciousness and the jazz of spoken language are audible in these poems.” —**The New Yorker**

“In a compassionate, perceptive spirit, Seshadri offers us works that belong among, the broadest, most intelligent new poetry of this decade.” —**Publishers Weekly, starred review**

“A poet of high intelligence.” —**Times Literary Supplement**

“Seshadri shows himself to be an intelligent, talented, thoughtful, and risk-taking poet. . . . *Wild Kingdom* is a new volume of poems well worth the engagement.” —**Boston Book Review**

“Genuine and finely wrought, these poems are to be read and read again.” —**Seattle Weekly**

“Vijay Seshadri’s poems are wittily alive to everything, continually quick and surprising, expertly turned.” —**Richard Wilbur**

“Vijay Seshadri tracks ‘the signature stinks and blood trails’ of our species—its squalor and splendor, seen here with both charity and rage—exhilaratingly in this book. The poems have both electric energy and gravitas. Short and long poems (which is rare) equally have authority. The distinction with which this new voice deciphers the ‘Rosetta stone’ of our ‘defective mythologies’ is unmistakable, and absorbing.” —**Frank Bidart**

“These are poems full of musical light and dark wit. Their cadences are wonderfully poised between regret and discovery. Vijay Seshadri is a lyric poet who can mix elegy and affirmation within a few stanzas of one another. He makes the landscape and the cityscape into one challenging and heartbreaking place where the old transformations of language can still happen.” —**Eavan Boland**