

# P R E S S R E L E A S E

## EKSTASIS EDITIONS CELEBRATES THE RELEASE OF NEW POETRY FROM D.C. REID

# What It Means To Be Human

*What It Means To Be Human*, a technically ambitious book of poetry, has the urgency and immediacy of a novel, but also the precise, lyric sensibility of poetry. *What It Means to be Human* is Reid's tenth book: the title is both a statement and an open-ended question, as Reid explores what it *does* mean to be human, through individual stories, with compassionate grace. He employs the conventions of prose – multiple points of view, time shifts and plot – to weave an intricate tapestry of lives, where the past intersects with the present, while questioning the meaning of home and identity. While Reid's presentation is novelistic, he focuses not on action but on pauses and intervals, moments of suspension, in a dream-like present tense in which poetic speculation and reflection are possible. *What It Means To Be Human* 'pushes' on the English language to make it say more and to reveal surprising meanings. As polished and inventive as Silvia Legris's *Nerve Squall* and Ken Babstock's *Airstream Land Yacht*, D.C. Reid resoundingly exemplifies what it means to be human.

As brainy and inventive, as Silvia Legris's *Nerve Squall*, and Ken Babstock's *Airstream Land Yacht*. A needed book for poets and those who love poetry.

*Lots of imagination and haunt here, the poems leading to fascinating new perceptions. I really admire the leaps you take and how deeply you trust your imagery.*

Barry Dempster

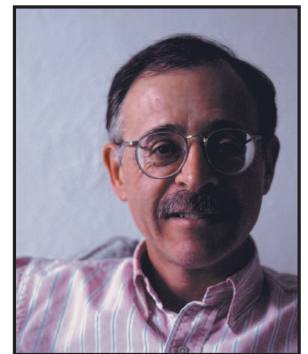
*Such good work in here.*

Ken Babstock

*... lush and hypnotic... lovely turns of phrase, devastating images, heart-rending characters... I love that the narrative is so strong but so fractured.*

Alana Wilcox

DC Reid has published five books of poetry, one novel and four non-fiction fly-fishing titles. Reid's last two books of poetry, *Love And Other Things That Hurt*, and *The Hunger* were shortlisted, in their separate years, for the Dorothy Livesay Award, BC's highest prize for a book of poetry. Among his many other awards, Reid has taken silver twice in the Bliss Carmen award. His work has been translated into Hindi and Spanish. He is the current President of the League of Canadian Poets. Visit [dcreid.ca](http://dcreid.ca) for something completely different, and a fascinating title: *The Brains of Poets*, that combines cutting-edge neuroscience and the minds of poets.



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