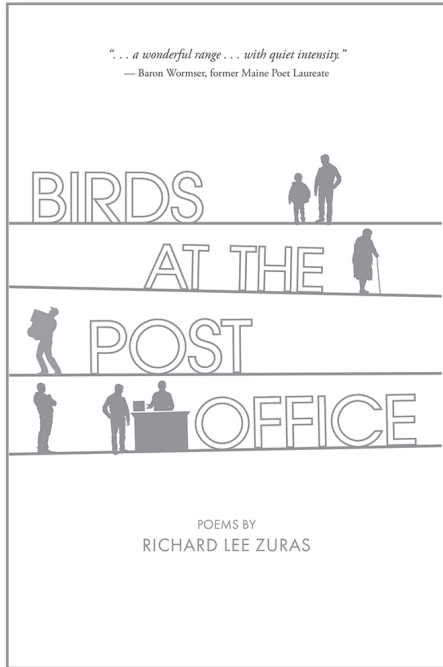


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The asthmatics behind me are not asthmatics
That was wrong of me to suggest
But they do shuffle and breathe heavy
Like they think Jerry will hear them and stop

These poems illuminate a life of family—a life of love and loss: jobs worked, kids born and raised, love's passions and ebbs, failures and successes, the big moments and the small, the dreams and the nightmares.

About the Author



Originally from Arlington, Virginia, **Richard Lee Zuras** has published two novels, *The Bastard Year* and *The Honeymoon Corruption* (both with Brandylane Publishers, Inc.). Writing poetry informed by confession, Richard has published poems in *Innisfree*, *South Dakota Review*, *Red Rock Review*, *Confrontation*, *Jabberwock Review*, and *The Great American Wise-Ass Poetry Anthology*. He teaches creative writing, film, and general education courses at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, located in northern Maine, where he has lived since 2001. In his spare time, Richard composes song lyrics for his sons' folk/rock band, matches wits with his stubborn dog, and contemplates moving his family to a warmer climate.

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