LOVE’S FINGERPRINTS: Poems | Bernard Horn

Love’s Fingerprint investigates the deep imprints made on us by those we love, living and remembered: mother and father, spouse/lover, children and grandchildren, ancestors known only through stories passed down, homes long lost and homes holding us today, and two nations—the United States and Israel. Family life intersects with the larger world, with an undercurrent of the Book of Job.

PRAISE

Bernard Horn’s poems shine with honesty and reverberate with history. There’s so much in these pages: the shy love between fathers and sons, the miracle of a stranger’s intervention, the fearsome strength of memory. Love’s Fingerprints holds a mirror to all our human fragility and beauty. — Rachel Kadish, author of The Weight of Ink

Love’s Fingerprints makes its strange and original music from the duet of past and present…. Emerson said that when he was educating himself in his youth, two great parties were in contention, “the party of hope and the party of memory.” The poems in Love’s Fingerprints belong to both parties, braiding them together in moving dialogue. — Carl Dennis, author of Practical Gods (2011 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry)

Love’s Fingerprints emerges in the ear as a jubilant song of persistent memory that entrancingly recalls a life made rich by the promontories of family and abundant love. Humane and exuberant, his is the kind of intellect that rushes over the past like water over pebbles, elevating ordinary moments to the realm of art with a luminosity that startles. Such wondrous clarity of language and sound are owed to feats of wisdom but also a loyalty to one’s revelations. — Major Jackson, author of The Absurd Man

Love’s Fingerprints is an exquisite collection of poems, prose and portraiture; stories of early memories to present day marriage to the difficulties outside the domestic space—all carefully articulated…. — Prageeta Sharma, author of Grief Sequence

The intense dramas Horn depicts in Love’s Fingerprints, as well as the subtle moments of feeling, are always only a breath away from startling connections with biblical or other literary revelations…. The emotional intensity of his mind gives these poems—including his stunning prose memoir about his father—burning power. — Alan Feldman, author of The Golden Coin and Immortality (Massachusetts Book Award for Poetry)

ABOUT BERNARD HORN

Bernard Horn’s debut poetry collection Our Daily Words won the Old Seventy Creek Poetry Prize and was a finalist for the 2011 Massachusetts Book Award in Poetry. His poems have appeared in journals including The New York Times, Mississippi Review, and HuffPost, and in Devouring the Green: Anthology of New Writing. His translations of Yehuda Amichai’s poetry from Hebrew to English are published in The New Yorker. His book, Facing the Fires: Conversations with A. B. Yehoshua, is the only work in English about Israel’s pre-eminent novelist. He is Professor of English emeritus at Framingham State University and lives with his wife, artist Linda Klein, in Framingham, Massachusetts.