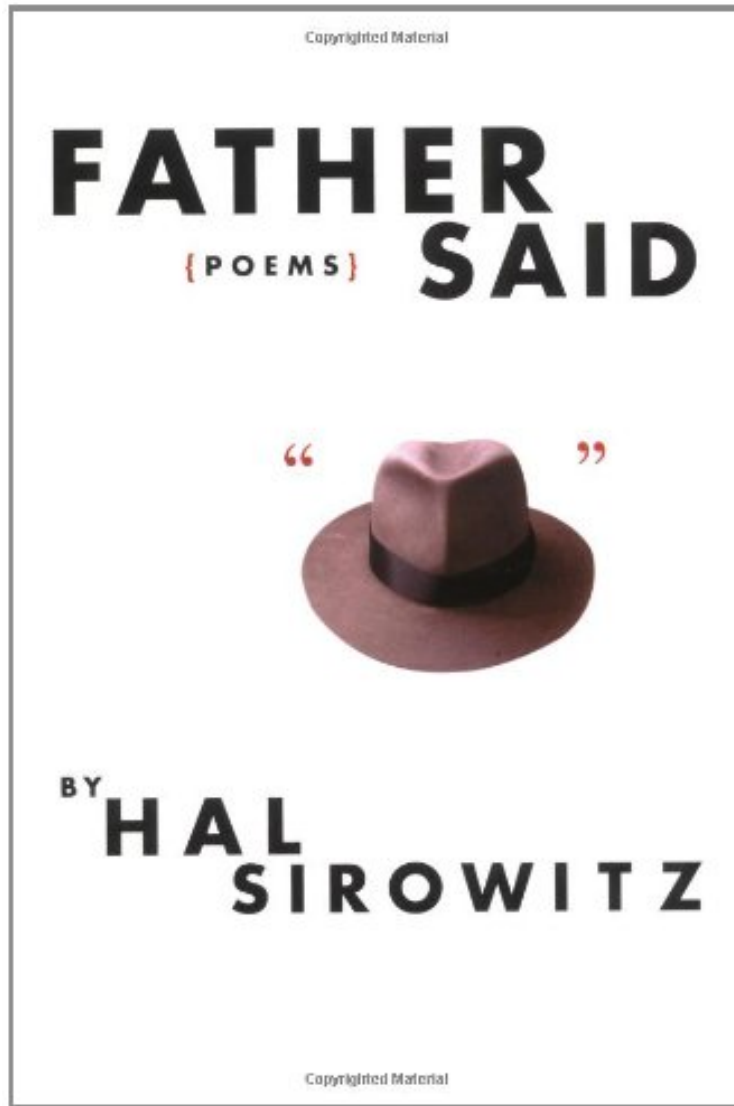


(Get free) Father Said: Poems

Father Said: Poems

Hal Sirowitz

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Hal Sirowitz : Father Said: Poems before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Father Said: Poems:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Father Said:PoemsBy Miriam WeinsteinJudging by these poems Mr. Sirowitz did not have warm loving parents with a good marriage but some of the poems are amusing some of them make a good point. At the price that I paid which was minimal, those poems were probably worth the price of the book. I plan to pass the book on at the next library sale.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My "Favorite PoetBy Helen WebbHal Sirowitz is one of my favorite poets. I love his wit and style. I am delighted that I ordered and

got it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Marion Deutsche Cohen, author of "Lights I Have Loved" and "Still the End: Memoir of a Nursing Home Wife"By Marion D. CohenThere are many things I like -- love -- about Sirowitz's poems. One: They're so very authentic. They don't sound like they're trying to be poetry, or trying to be anything. Two: The unique style. the way they work their way from what "Father Said" (and, in other books, what "Mother Said" and what "My Therapist Said") -- or rather, what Father ACTUALLY said, into what Sirowitz takes to its logical conclusion (or ONE logical conclusion). It's actually (this from a mathematician) a little like an indirect proof; he assumes the truth of what Father begins saying and, from that assumed truth, goes from that beginning through the path of the middle all the way to some laughable end -- thus proving at least some of the illogic of what Father actually said. Three: I love his titles. The way one, in particular one versed in poetry, might feel they're too obvious or too much of a "spoiler" -- but that just makes them funnier and more familiar, or more something -- just more PERFECT. They have a pertinence all their own. Four: I've been interested, lately, in the idea of writing in the second person -- and I see that many of these poems have a surefire way to work themselves into the second person, in an interesting way. The "you" in these poems is really "me", Hal Sirowitz, the author. (Example: Don't think you know everything, / Father said, just because you're good / with words..."This book, along with Hal Sirowitz's other books, is enjoyable and truthful -- and, like a good therapist, not too invasive.

FATHER SAID is the book fans of Sirowitz's MOTHER SAID have been waiting for: after all, parents come in pairs. Hal's mother may have dominated the Sirowitz household with her overly-protective advice and flair for inducing Jewish guilt, but Mr. Sirowitz had a few bon mots to impart to his son as well. In FATHER SAID, he teaches Hal important lessons on "How to Be a Humanitarian," "The Meaning of Racism," "What to Do When You Burp," "Being a Good Citizen," "Why God Created Eve," "How to Avoid Being Idle," and "Taking Your Fun While You Can." Sounds like a typical dad, right? But Mr. Sirowitz's cautionary tales prove to be as idiosyncratic as his wife's. In FATHER SAID, Hal gives us a wonderfully funny and tender portrait of his dear old Dad, from childhood memories to his death from cancer. Fathers, mothers, and their sons and daughters everywhere will recognize something of themselves in the Sirowitz family--and while they laugh at their arguments and their nagging, they will also feel the love and familial affection running strongly through these poems. MOTHER SAID sold 20,000 copies and has been translated into nine languages. Both MOTHER SAID and MY THERAPIST SAID

From Publishers WeeklyMother Said, an earlier book of oedipal ventriloquism from Queens's mournful deadpan bard, was translated into nine languages. This follow-up collection continues to alchemize neurotic parental utterances into blank verse ditties of angsty epiphany. Sirowitz's "father" is full of lament. He compares the young Hal to ants ("I've never seen them being idle. I/ wish I could say the same thing about you"), and his daughter and wife similarly frustrate, yet he remains philosophical: "getting my share of the unhappiness" is "the price you pay for being human." Indeed, "The only/ good thing about dying is that I/ won't be around if something goes wrong./ You'll have to take care of it." Taken best in small doses, these dispatches of familial frustration remind us why one of Sirowitz's previous books is My Therapist Said. It helps to imagine Sirowitz (if you've ever heard him) reading these with nasal laconicism, so an audio version would be welcome. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Mr. Sirowitz has a style on the page ... of the young Philip Roth."About the AuthorHal Sirowitz has won multiple prestigious awards listed above, has performed on stage and many television shows including MTV's Spoken Word Unplugged. His poems have been included in dozens of anthologies such as Garrison Keillor's Good Poems, Billy Collins's Poetry 180, Poetry in Motion from Coast to Coast, Poetry after 9/11, and 110 Stories: Writers Respond to 9/11.