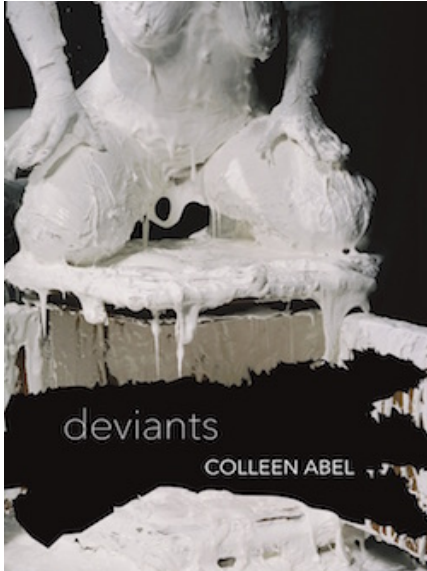


Sundress Publications Releases Colleen Abel's Chapbook *Deviants*



Knoxville, TN—Sundress Publications is pleased to announce publication of the winner of our 2016 chapbook contest, Colleen Abel's *Deviants*.



"In *Deviants*, 'The eye alters all that it falls on.' And the eye is everywhere—in every poem and in the lyric essay, 'Fat Studies.' There is no escape, even in the darkness: 'It's true I like you better in the dark. / Deep dark. Where I can't even see your face.' And the eye is keen in its appraisal. What it sees is what is most often offered up for alteration—the female body. The poems and the lyric essay all deal in issues of body. These bodies are not, however, places of comfort and safety. Instead the body is dangerous: 'My heart is not a heart, it is a little nest of razorblades. I look soft, but if you touch me, your hands will be instantly pulverized, as if you had slammed them into concrete.' Or the body becomes something to escape: 'If it helps, I don't want to be myself / either—to slip out of this body when / when you enter, to exchange within the puff / of magic smoke my life for another. / Leave me other.' The body is in turns stark and lush and finally 'the body / is a planet

you tilt / on its axis spinning.' *Deviants* left me both spinning and altered. It made me want to say, Thank you for helping me understand." —Staci R. Schoenfeld, 2016 Chapbook Contest Judge

"Colleen Abel's wonderful book, *Deviant*, is mesmerizing—once I began, I couldn't stop reading. The speaker provides a moving account—sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes wry, and oftentimes both—of what it means to be 'fat' in this world. The central piece is called 'Fat Studies' with references to sociologists and humorous pieces about Jackie Kennedy. Ultimately, *Deviants* is a beautiful book by a talented writer on material so many of us can understand and relate to, but oftentimes don't have the opportunity to read in this form." —Victoria Chang

Colleen Abel's first full-length collection, *Remake*, won Unicorn Press' 2015 Editors Prize and is forthcoming in fall 2016. She is also the author of *Housewifery*, a chapbook (dancing girl press, 2013). A former Diane Middlebrook Poetry Fellow at UW-Madison, Abel has published work in *Pleiades*, *Colorado Review*, *The Collagist*, *Southern Review*, *West Branch*, and elsewhere. She lives in Wisconsin with her student loans.

You can download *Deviants* for free today at our website:
www.sundresspublications.com/



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