

Graywolf Press announces



NECK DEEP AND OTHER PREDICAMENTS

BY ANDER MONSON

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ONE TASTY LITTLE BOOK: CRISPY CHICKEN AND BAD DENTAL JUJU

*Ander Monson, finalist for the New York Public Library Young Lions Award,
uncovers the third genre with visually pleasing form*

An innovative and engaging nonfiction debut by “an original new voice” (*Publishers Weekly*) and the **second winner of the Graywolf Press Nonfiction Prize**

In this sparkling nonfiction debut, Monson uses unexpectedly nonliterary forms—the index, the Harvard Outline, the mathematical proof—to delve into an equally surprising mix of obsessions: disc golf, the history of mining in northern Michigan, car washes, topology, and more. He reflects on his outsider experience at an exclusive Detroit-area boarding school in the form of a criminal history and invents a new form as he meditates on snow.

“Unapologetically smart, unexpectedly emotional, and playful in ways that most nonfiction never attempts, Ander Monson’s *Neck Deep and Other Predicaments* is what we mean when we say essay.” —**John D’Agata**

“Elizabeth Bishop often remarked that she wanted poems and prose that register the mind in motion rather than at rest. Bishop would have loved the work of Ander Monson, as much for his yearning mind as his quick, restless, precise motion. ‘I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT SNOW,’ Monson writes in *Neck Deep*. Yes, indeed, and one of the many copious and surprising things he’s also obviously been thinking about is the new American essay, of which he is the latest Edison, to touch on the title of his earlier novel, *Other Electricities*. For Monson the essay is something like a schematics for our fiercest longings and most ecstatic inventions. Every time I turn to it I’m astonished all over again by the majesty of this book.”—**Robert Polito, Judge**

Ander Monson is the author of the novel *Other Electricities* and the poetry collection *Vacationland*. He lives in Michigan and edits the magazine *DIAGRAM* and the New Michigan Press. Visit his web site at www.otherelectricities.com/neckdeep.

Nonfiction, Paperback (1-55597-459-7), 192 pages, 6 x 9, \$15.00; February 2007

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