



Media Kit - *the secret book of god*

Main Press Release

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Long-time Austin literatus Ric Williams, who has edited the "Litera" column in *The Austin Chronicle* since 1988, launches his first solo collection of poems, *the secret book of god*, issued by Dalton Publishing, Austin, Texas.

Williams' *the secret book of god* speaks to the mythic archetypes that reside in all of us in a voice that is soulful, intelligent, and full of imagery. This book is a journey into mythopoetics for academics and laymen alike. Williams writes with an almost eerie insight into human nature that quenches the popular thirst for expressions of longing and intimacy so prevalent in today's online-dating, instant-messaging, internet-coffeeshopping, reality-TV-watching society.

Many of the poems in *the secret book of god* possess a healing quality as they reach deep and bring a light to that place in us where self-love is often overshadowed by old wounds. While other poems are soul-searching journeys that begin as a poet's dream and carry us through imagery to the realization of our own personal longings.

Williams is an unsung philosopher with a gift for interpreting the human psyche through the poetics of image. It is through such imagery that *the secret book of god* offers readers a glimpse into the human heart that will deepen their own journey into the richness of soul territories they have for too long been too wounded to explore.

Poet and cultural mythologist Stephanie Pope calls *the secret book of god* "a remarkable and powerful expression of soul." The author of *Like a Woman Falling*, Pope says Williams' collection "is one of Austin's finest secrets . . . although, not for long."

In addition to his work with the *Chronicle*, Williams interviewed local writers for the "Poet's Beat" column of *The Austin Light* and edited for *Man! Magazine*, the *Salt Journal*, and for the poetry anthologies *Aileron* and *Vowel Movement*. He was the associate editor from 1997 to 1999 for *Alchemy on Sunday*, the literary journal of California's Pacifica Graduate Institute, where he received his master's degree in mythology with an emphasis in depth psychology. He is currently the senior editor for *Creative Pulse Magazine*. Williams' interview with Larry McMurtry is featured in *Conversations with Texas Writers*, published in March 2005 by UT Press.

He lives in Austin with his artist wife Christy Kale and their daughters Kady and Ramona. While Williams contends that "I don't know" is often the wisest thing he has ever said, he believes the universe is, ultimately, a comedy.