Imagine every day for the rest of your life at least one person looks into your eyes and asks: "Is there something wrong?" And all you can remember is this child waking you in the middle of the night. And this shallow grave that you dug into the earth.

Some memories are transformed into myths at the very moment that they are remembered. Stories are told for those who have vanished, for the loves that have been lost. Language is borne out of this absence.

In spare yet luminous prose, Between Appear and Disappear is a lyrical love story of Mai and Doug, and of the way that memoir is turned into myth.

An unforgettable and perfect book.

—LIDIA YUKNAVITCH, author of The Book of Joan

What is uttered and what isn’t uttered, gentleness and terribleness, mythic and mundane, all come together to show us, through Rice’s exacting words, a new way of looking at this world that is both cruel and beautiful. This is a terrifying book to read—illuminating, wise, philosophical, and, at the end, devastating.

—MARIKO NAGAI, author of Irradiated Cities

The book is, thus, between appearing and disappearing, between the words one can read and the words buried under the printed photographs, a hidden treasure.

—JALAL TOUFIC, author of Forthcoming

[A] collaboration of syncopated narratives, a lyrical photography that "invites and denies touch."

—VI KHI NAO, author Fish in Exile

Written in the breath of a man in love, a novel, a poem, a photo album, this delirium of river language is finally a treatise on writing.

—SHARON DOUBIAGO, author of Love in the Streets

Between Appear and Disappear

by Doug Rice

Civil Coping Mechanisms
110 pages / October 7, 2019

Memoir / Autobiography / Hybrid

DOUG RICE is the author of Here Lies Memory, An Erotics of Seeing, Dream Memoirs of a Fabulist, Skin Prayer, Blood of Mugwump, and other works of fiction, photography, and theory. His work has been translated into five languages, and he was a recipient of a literary residency at the Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany.