

THE DOGS ARE
WATCHING.
LISTEN, THE
EGGS ARE
CRACKING.
THEY ARE
TOLD TO STAY,
DON'T RUN.

THEY ONCE
WERE TOLD
YELLOW IS
THE COLOR OF
HAPPINESS.

Ghosts Are Just Strangers Who Know How to Knock is a multi-genre collection that examines grief, violence, heartbreak, and the universal challenge of living in a body that is always vulnerable. In this greyscale kaleidoscope of the familiar and the uncanny, muted voices shout, people commit to devastating choices, and mundane moments are filled with silent hauntings. A sleep paralysis and a séance of voices long dead, this collection's characters illuminate both our own darkness and our strength, revealing how love can emerge from the most impossible of conditions.

“
Leftwich's characters curve out of what is expected: they surprise you, they confess, they hide, they snark, they love and long.

— ELLE NASH, author of *Animals Eat Each other*

The pieces feel like pages ripped from the diaries of lost souls, sometimes deadpan & direct, sometimes fluttering through fever dreams & teetering realities in which intimates reveals themselves to be a hole.
— MATHIAS SVALINA, author of *The Wine-Dark Sea*

Leftwich has written something special where vulnerability is a form of resistance.

Where vulnerability drags shame and guilt from their shadows and sets them on tables as centerpieces so we can view them from all angles.

— STEVEN DUNN, author of *Potted Meat*

This wonderful book is made of lightning bolts and thunderclaps. Each page is a different kind of human storm. Some carry you up into the sky, others send the moon careening down to you.

Hillary Leftwich is an extraordinary talent.

— BUD SMITH, author of *WORK*

Ghosts Are Just Strangers Who Know How to Knock

by Hillary Leftwich



Civil Coping Mechanisms
ISBN 978-1-948700-19-1
132 pages / October 7, 2019
Fiction / Nonfiction / Hybrid

HILLARY LEFTWICH is the poetry and prose editor for *Heavy Feather Review* and runs *At the Inkwell Denver*, a monthly reading series. Currently, she freelances as a writer, editor, writing workshop instructor, and guest instructor for Kathy Fish's *Fast Flash Workshop*. She lives in Colorado with her partner, her son, and their cat, Larry. Find more of her writing at <http://www.hillaryleftwich.com>