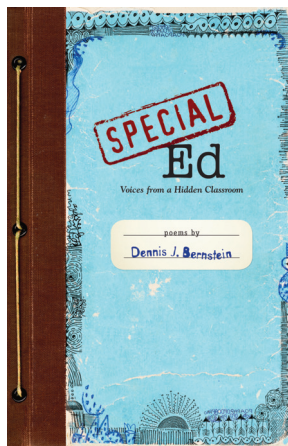


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NYQ Books™ announces the publication of *Special Ed: Voices from a Hidden Classroom* by Dennis J. Bernstein

February 8, 2012 - New York, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the release of *Special Ed: Voices from a Hidden Classroom* by Dennis J. Bernstein. Come into the special ed classroom, where the kids who don't fit in anywhere else spend their day. For these kids—real kids Dennis J. Bernstein taught in the New York City public schools before he became an internationally known investigative journalist—pistols, switchblades, police cars and hunger are more instructive than textbooks. *Special Ed* is about daily life under the siege of poverty, racism, and class warfare. We come to know these kids intimately. Dennis Bernstein loves these kids fiercely, and we come to love them too as the collection unfolds.

"*Special Ed* is about daily life under the siege of poverty, racism, and class warfare. In these stunning, understated poems, these poems unafraid to name the darkest facts of our world and yet continually informed with compassion, we find ourselves in Rilke's world of beauty and terror." —Anita Barrows, PhD, poet, child psychologist, translator (with Joanna Macy) of Rainer Maria Rilke

"Dennis Bernstein is a hero to me because of his dedicated, unflinching reporting of real news on Flashpoints, at KPFA in Berkeley, California. But his fearless pursuit of the truth about what is happening in our rapidly transforming world did not prepare me for the beauty, depth, not-one-word-mislaid perception of this amazing book. Each word, each line, each thought has a weight, a texture, a surprise all its own." —Alice Walker, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet

"Dennis Bernstein words hit me hard; everything about the short, whimsical poems gave me hope, desire, peace and a hint of madness. Life breathes through his poems. *Special Ed* is a collection of snapshots, some in colors, some in black and white, but never in grey...*Special Ed* is a must read for all, to allow freedom to sip through and to tear off the labels that conceal the true human nature behind short, oppressing, limiting letters that specialized education is so found of! I love nothing more than starting each of my Education graduate classes with one of Dennis's poems and letting the words play their magic!"
—Laurence Emmanuelle Hadjas, PhD, UCLA

Dennis J. Bernstein lives in San Francisco and has been a long-time front line reporter specializing in Human Rights. His articles have appeared widely including in the *Boston Globe*, *New York Times*, *The Progressive*, and the *Nation*. Bernstein was chosen by Pulse Media as one of "20 Top Global Media Figures of 2009." Bernstein's artist books, co-authored with Warren Lehrer, are in the Special Books Collections of the Museum of Modern art in New York City and other major museums around the world. Bernstein's poetry has appeared in the *New York Quarterly*, *Chimera*, *Bat City Review*, *The Progressive*, *Texas Observer*, *ZYZZYVA*, etc. *Special Ed* is Bernstein's first full collection of poetry.

NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the *New York Quarterly* poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.



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