



## An Expectation of Presences: New Poems and Revisions

By Brett Rutherford

Poet's Press, The. Paperback. Condition: New. 364 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.0in. Here is Brett Rutherford's first new compendium of poems in seven years. Following on *The Gods As They Are On Their Planets* (2005) and *Poems from Providence* (1991), this book is a must for fans of this neo-Romantic American poet. The 94 new poems and revisions in this collection range from a dark-shadowed childhood in the coal and coke region of Western Pennsylvania, to New York City and Providence, Rhode Island. The jolting sequence titled *Out Home* is a poetic memoir of broken families and childhood terrors, and the imminent threat of kidnaping and mutilation by Doctor Jones, a crazed surgeon who roams the countryside in a sinister roadster. The small boy of these poems is already a self-styled outsider, defining his difference from the crushing environment around him. In *Past the Millennium* and *Ars Poetica*, the full-grown poet soars, with politically-charged poems on Solzhenitsyn, the self-immolation of Czech martyr Jan Palach, and the imagined overtaking of Bush and Cheney by *The Black Huntsman*. Rutherford walks in Poes footsteps on a Hudson River pier, visits ancient Rome for a chat with the lawgiving King Numa Pompilius, and...



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