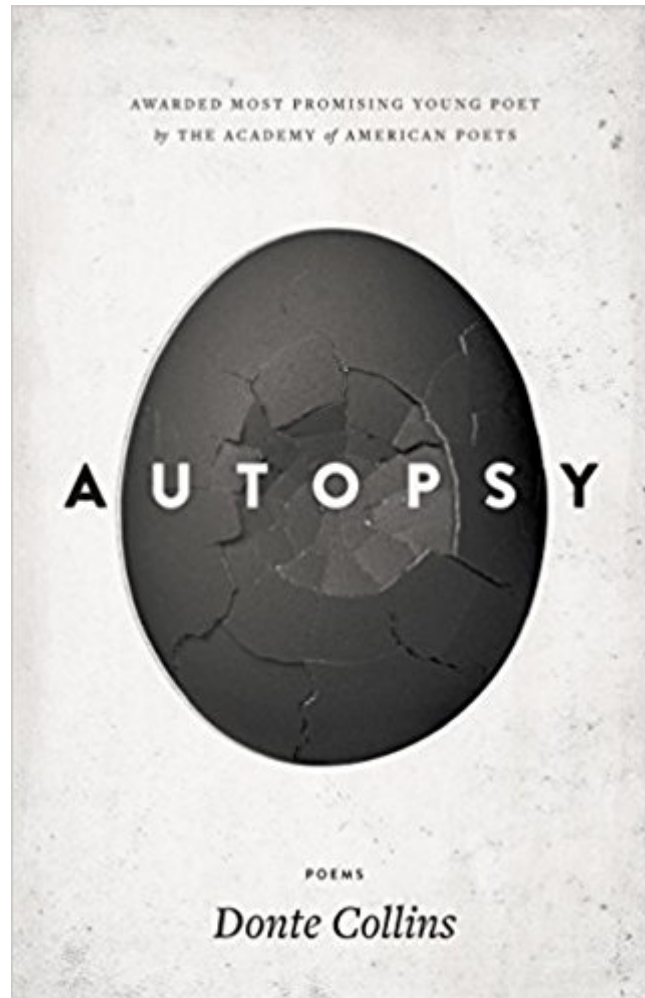




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Autopsy



Synopsis

Written after the death of his mother, Donte Collins's *Autopsy* establishes the poet as one of the most important voices in the next generation of American poetry. As the book unfolds, the reader journeys alongside the author through grief and healing. Named the Most Promising Young Poet in the country by the Academy of American Poets, Collins's work has consistently wowed audiences. *Autopsy* propels that work onto the national stage. In the words of the author, the book is a spring thaw -- the new life alongside the old, the good cry and the release after.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"These poems are meditations on grief, but they do not try to change it, banish it, exploit it, or "make sense of" it; they simply sit with it. For anyone who has lost someone...this space is immeasurably important." --Kyle "Guante" Tran Myhre, author of *A Love Song*, *A Death Rattle*, *A Battle Cry* "It is rare for an artist to so willingly bury themselves before your eyes, then rise from the dirt bearing jewels. May we not view these poems solely as beauty, but also as fire...live and gifting." - Khary "6 is 9" Jackson, author of *Any Psalm You Want*.

Donte is a 21-year-old queer, black poet. Named the first Youth Poet Laureate of Saint Paul, Minnesota, they are the author of *Autopsy* (Button Poetry) and winner of the 2016 Most Promising Young Poet Award from the Academy of American Poets. They are an alum of TruArtSpeaks, as well as a current board member of Black Table Arts. Donte resides in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where they hibernate during the winter and seriously consider purchasing a warmer yet less fashionable

jacket.

Brilliant writer!

Autopsy, is about a personal undoing that Collins shares with you on his path of grief and self discovery. He lifts up every rock of mourning and drags out what we would never have the courage to take on. You feel his pain. You feel his broken heart. You see his beautiful shames and flaws and accept them as he does. Through these pages you will discover and fall in love with the way Collins shares himself. You'll catch your breath. You'll close the book and wonder how could any other poem be more transparent than the current one? And then there will be. If I could describe a feeling, I would describe his poems as a warm after the cold. A fresh rain after a hot week. I wish I could describe myself the way he does. I wish I could make my mundane, this damn beautiful.

What I love about the book is the honesty, the exploration of grief, and the ability for a Black boy to be vulnerable. Autopsy is the book of poems you come back to in the middle of the night when you're sad. It is the book of poems you come back to when you want to remember someone, even if it hurts.

As a black male poet, who is also adopted and has struggled with the loss of my mother and father, this work resonates within the deepest part of my soul. I felt as if each page was written for me. This is gospel, this is daily bread. Thank you Donte for sharing this gift with all of us.

Wow. This book is amazing. Donte is a truly gifted young man and I can't say how much I appreciate him sharing himself with us in this book. I read it cover to cover and am now starting over, savoring every bit and marking oh-so-many beautiful passages.

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