

Holly Melgard

Read Me: Selected Works

Read Me gathers the tools necessary to make sense of contemporary problems so ubiquitous they seem too big to name. Spanning a multiplicity of genres, media, and tonal registers, this book surveys Holly Melgard's formally experimental poetic works produced between 2008 and 2023, including sound poems, essays on poetics, and books that exploit print-on-demand to, for example, counterfeit money. In often wildly comic turns of thought, Melgard's work cleaves personal agency from automated defaults by mapping trauma and technocracy from the inside out. From critical talks to fictional monologues, the poet translates into language the unremarkable torments of neoliberalization in the digital age.



Trade Paperback
Poetry/Essay | \$20
4.5" x 7" | 328 pp.

ISBN: 978-1-946604-04-0

Release Date: September 1, 2023

// Holly Melgard is wicked smart. No poet more quickly or perceptively understood the intersections of digital media, labor, finance, gender, and affect that circumscribe our current social condition. To be sure, you're being trolled. But for once you're being trolled by someone fearless – and more intelligent than you. *Read Me* is a double dare.

— CRAIG DWORKIN

// Holly Melgard infiltrates some of the most infernal folds in what's left of literature. It gives me hope.

— LUCY IVES

// Aggregating a decade and a half of experiment, Holly Melgard's *Read Me* channels the groans and frequencies of communicating understanding that make bespoke address even a little bit possible. In these poems and essays, no détourn of the mouth, mind, or page goes uncorrected.

— SHIV KOTECHA



Holly Melgard is the author of *Fetal Position* (Roof), named by Jackie Ess as one of Artforum's "Best of 2021." In addition to publishing the chapbooks *Catcall* (UDP) and *Divisions of Labor* (Make Now), she has also self-published ten books of poetry on Troll Thread press, as well as the co-authored books (along with Joey Yearous-Algozin) *White Trash* and *Liquidation*. Having performed her work at such sites as the New York Museum of Modern Art and the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, her work has also appeared in *BOMB Magazine*, *Best American Experimental Poetry*, and was translated in the German journal *Merkur*. A recent faculty in the Banff Winter Writers Retreat, she currently teaches writing at New York University and City University of New York, freelance book designs, and lives in Brooklyn, NY.