

AUTHOR NOTE:

Love in the Chthulucene (Cthulhucene) went to press in March 2019. I am so grateful for this book and so proud of the work of everyone at Wolsak and Wynn. I have one deep regret and my fantastic editor and publisher, Noelle Allen, is helping me to address that. In April of 2019, my incredible queer non-binary child came out to us. The poem “Love Letter,” in my book, which was my gift for Casey, therefore was printed with the wrong pronouns. As well, in the acknowledgements and in “Notes,” I refer to Casey as Cassius and this is wrong. They have always been and are Casey. I regret, I hate, that I committed Casey to public memory as different than they are because I am so grateful and thrilled with who they are. My queer non-binary child is a gift beyond poetry. I am so lucky and happy with both of my kids. Because of Casey and Imogen my life is literally and figuratively covered in sparkles.

LOVE LETTER

I keep thinking that I'm nothing lots of support for fresh paint brightened fear I can't do what others do the numbers flip like thin red plastic fish a 6 is the same thing as a 9 left is right it's the other right those looks I get when I forget everyone else has perfect recall how to build a curriculum vitae matters but writing down visions to make whole worlds for strangers that is rubbish

Munro wins the Nobel Prize and I spill coffee on my breast I cry out and they run over already joyed what is it Mummy? I say this woman won a prize for writing books that everybody reads they scream I'm so stupid! I'm so stupid! roll up like a hedgehog in a hole I made

The psychologist says they flirt when tested fall off the chair then sit up say why don't you tell me about *you* it's hard to gauge what's in their mind but I think they will get along just fine she says when asked why do policemen wear uniforms they answer so they won't be naked that's right you know I tell her first thing at work is often but not always don't be naked

I found a card they wrote and hid inside their teddy's shirt long bright ascenders and descenders their name in eyelashes one symbol is as good as the next in fact a note that looks like swearing is a love letter