

LETTERS OF PRAISE FOR *TAXI NIGHT*

The cover is fantastic, did you do that artwork? is it a real book or is that just a cover image for the reading? It should be! If it is, I need a copy! I love the work ~ especially the one with Ron but all of it, it's like a Philip Whalen novel, down to earth & so accepting & loving. The art makes me want to make a book-length series of TSP poems & use one of these for a cover - the one with color is especially nice.

Thank you & congratulations on one of the best readings EVER. The work was perfect in every way & you read perfectly. I think you maybe are the only poet in 40 years who has absorbed & can use WCW, in your own way, of course. Your answers to the (excellent) questions people posed were likewise perfect. Maggie & I spent a pleasurable hour afterwards praising you & your book.
Elinor Nauen 12 May 2021

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What a gift you brought me today! thank you for the copy of *Taxi Night*. I'm reading it now, the poems capture so many voices. I love the range of long and short, the sparser ones really jump out at you, allowing what's a common and familiar sounding language to become something a bit more. These poems feel generous, observant, humanizing.
Marisa Malone 7 May 2021

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Thank you so much for sending *Taxi Night*. I had rushed out + bought a copy! So will give un-inscribed to some lucky person. It's quite wonderful + am looking forward to upcoming zoom. Keep writing—love the taxi motif. Love, Maureen.
Maureen Owen 2 June 2021

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CONGRATS!!

and thank you so much for the signed copy of *Taxi Night*. I've already sped through half of it—and love it.
Anne Waldman 28 May 2021

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The book arrived Monday and I took it out of the envelope sat down in my one comfortable chair and read it through from cover to cover in one sitting (with a break to feed the cat.) Brilliant!

Richard Modiano, Director Emeritus, Beyond Baroque Literary/Arts Center,
9 June 2021

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It's quite beautiful--you should be very proud--both in content and appearance. I'm quite impressed by your tenacity, vision, and love of people, as evidenced by the care you've shown in recording the snapshots of your fare's lives at that brief moment in time when you were transporting them safely back into their anonymity. Well done, my friend!

Peter Marti 12 June 2021

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I've been meaning to write since your reading, so forgive my sloth here. That reading was wonderful--I just loved it. I enjoyed hearing about the genesis of the book as a whole; these sort of Apollinairian projects sort of masquerade as "inartful," just writing down stuff you overhear, but I can tell that an incredible amount of thought went into the book's arrangement and it really has an effect. The hand of the master lurking behind the seemingly casual. I have to say, I like that you mixed in some poems from your voice/perspective as well; it really creates an interesting three corners among the things you overhear, the things that are said directly to you, and the things you write as observation. It could almost be said to be truer to the experience to mix your observational poems into work that other writers might keep separate from the collage work.

Garrett Caples 16 June 2021

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Delighted to get *Taxi Night* and watched, with delight!, Don Yorty's video. A pleasure being in the back of your cab. Charles Bernstein 16 June 2021

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Really really enjoyed *Taxi Night*. thanks a million!

Maria Damon 19 June 2021

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A truly beautiful book. I read it cover to cover yesterday. What a great experience! It was like being in the cab with you. Thank you for sending it — and for writing it.

Bill Morgan 20 June 2021 White River Junction, VT

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Hi Cliff! Thank you so much for sending me your book—I just love what I've read so far. It's something totally presented from a new and compellingly idiosyncratic POV—Congrats! I hope to see you around on the scene soon.

Sanjay Agnihotri

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...Speaking of amazing, I finally read *Taxi Night*, and I think it's a classic. Thanks for sending, and for signing it in blue crayon.

I think it totally conveys the cab experience, especially in New York. Even for a work where most of the language is not originating from the writer, I think the lines are expertly edited and related. I love that you included your own asides ... which are certainly important in conveying that there is a relationship of some kind happening here. It would not be the same information without them.

This is one of those rare books that gets to be multiple forms: poems, a kind of play as well, diaristic, and also conveys "the voice of the people," which is rarely what a lot of poets and writers think it is when they are claiming it.

Anyways, it's been big weird time period and it feels like a small miracle to get anything done, including finishing a great book. Edmund Berrigan 25 October 2021

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I've read *Taxi Night* several times, and each time I find new things to love. Fyman was an overnight cab driver in New York City off and on since the 1970s, and he captures the beauty, the humor, and the mundaness of those times perfectly. He has the vision of a true poet, yet I didn't feel like I was reading a "poem." Instead, I was carried invisibly into the underside of NYC night-life; the drunken cab-rides home, the jazzed-up helpful hustlers, the bored club-girls. Overheard conversations that I would never have had a chance to hear. This book is truly a masterpiece. Maggie Dubris 15 November 2021

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If you're looking for poetry of everyday life, look no further. Cliff Fyman is an antenna and an alchemist, turning conversations overheard in his taxi into nimble little poems ranging from hilarious to sad and back. I'm going to watch what I say next time I get in a cab. Peter Cherches, Goodreads review 16 Dec 2021