

**AE**

**HINES**

**poet**



[aehines.net](http://aehines.net)



[@poet\\_aehines](https://twitter.com/poet_aehines)



[@poet\\_aehines](https://www.instagram.com/poet_aehines)



[/aehines.94](https://www.facebook.com/aehines.94)

# AE HINES



AE Hines is the author of *Adam in the Garden* (Charlotte Lit Press, 2024) and *Any Dumb Animal* (Main Street Rag, 2021). He has won the *Red Wheelbarrow Prize* and *Palette Poetry's Love and Eros Prize*, and has been a finalist for the *Montreal International Poetry Prize*. His poems have been published in such journals as *The Southern Review*, *Rattle*, *The Sun*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *Alaska Quarterly*. His literary criticism can be found in *American Poetry Review*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, *Rain Taxi*, and *Northwest Review*. He received his MFA from Pacific University. [www.aehines.net](http://www.aehines.net)



*“Hines transforms simple, everyday acts into tender and moving lyrics, offering surprising journeys and closing lines that continue to inspire.”*

— **Dorianne Laux**  
Pulitzer Finalist

## Publications

**Adam in the Garden**

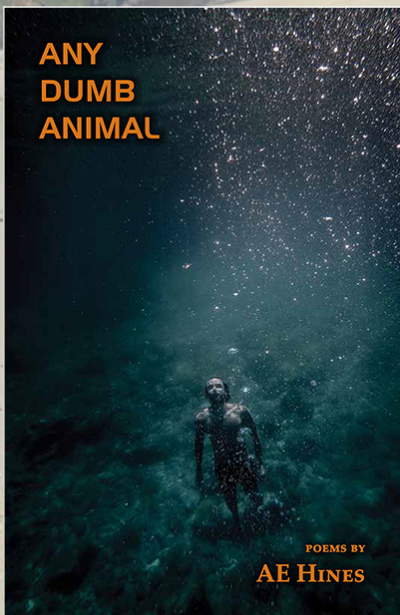
Charlotte Lit Press, 2024

**Any Dumb Animal**

Main Street Rag, 2021



Adam in the Garden  
AE Hines



## Accolades

**Housatonic Book Award**

Finalist

**Brockman-Campbell Book Award**

Honorable Mention

**Eric Hoffer Book Award**

Finalist

**Red Wheelbarrow Prize**

1st Place Winner

**Love and Eros Prize, Palette Poetry**

1st Place Winner

**Montreal Int'l Poetry Prize**

Finalist

"AE Hines keeps giving us what we want as readers—to fall through the holes of the everyday into deeper meaning."

— **Danusha Laméris**  
author of *Bonfire Opera*



## Adam in the Garden

AE Hines



## Astronauts

It was dangerous then,  
making love  
in a Carolina backyard. First  
the hammock threatened  
to flip us to the ground, taking  
with it my nerve; then  
you gasped at the sudden reach  
of my hand, which woke  
your fear, but not  
our classmates asleep inside.  
I spread  
a blanket, and we undressed.  
Silent. Back to back.  
Much like we would have  
in the locker room, each man  
neatly piling his clothes  
in opposing corners. The night  
was clear, the sky knitted with stars.  
We floated toward each other,  
summer astronauts  
on our first expedition: at first  
clumsy in our experiments, each of us  
taking our time as fireflies  
circled our naked bodies  
like blinking satellites  
or distant moons, each of us  
edging closer  
to discovery we could not  
yet name.

“In *Adam in the Garden*, AE Hines lyrically examines the thresholds we cross: from childhood to adulthood, youth to old age, from rejection to self-acceptance. Using both personal narrative and persona, and with a variety of forms, these poems are rich in both eros and pathos as Hines explores queer love and joy that is hard won. Whether set in the garden of the body, our fragile earth, or the biblical Eden, these poems fall through gaps in their subjects to reveal the extraordinary that is hidden in the middle of everyday life.”