

The Backwaters Press Announces
Mrs. Belladonna's Supper
Club Waltz

New and selected prose poems by Charles Fort



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The Backwaters Press
3502 N 52nd Street
Omaha, NE 68104-3506

thebackwaterspress@gmail.com

“Charles Fort, as though the hellhound were on his trail as it was on his spectacular work's chief spiritual presence, Robert Johnson, will take you on a hard ride here. Robert Johnson was perhaps the supreme eminence in that profoundest formal contribution to American poetry, the blues; and yet Fort's choice of a breathless, even a rampaging prose-poem manner at once pays homage to his great mentor and encompasses a huge swath of history -- social, political, religious, familial, neighborly, generational. The reader may first imagine these poems as surreal, but in fact they are super-real: Charles Fort has found an utterly precise and moving idiom for things large and small, ones that would -- before Mrs. Belladonna's Supper Club Waltz -- have seemed beyond expression. He is matchless.”

-- Sydney Lea, Vermont Poet Laureate