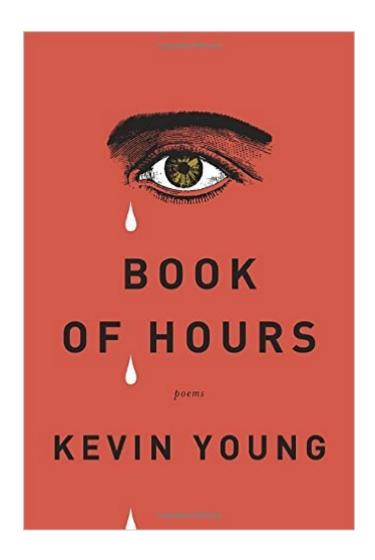
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# **Book Of Hours: Poems**





### Synopsis

A decade after the sudden and tragic loss of his father, we witness the unfolding of grief. â celn the night I brush / my teeth with a razor,â • he tells us, in one of the collectionâ <sup>TM</sup>s piercing two-line poems. Capturing the strange silence of bereavement (â ceNot the storm / but the calm / that slays meâ •), Kevin Young acknowledges, even celebrates, lifeâ <sup>TM</sup>s passages, his loss transformed and tempered in a sequence about the birth of his son: in â ceCrowning,â • he delivers what is surely one of the most powerful birth poems written by a man, describing â ceher face / full of fire, then groaning your face / out like a flower, blood-bloom,/ crocused into air.â • Ending this book of both birth and grief, the gorgeous title sequence brings acceptance, asking â ceWhat good/are wishes if they arenâ <sup>TM</sup>t / used up?â • while understanding â ceHow to listen / to whatâ <sup>TM</sup>s gone.â • Youngâ <sup>TM</sup>s frank music speaks directly to the reader in these elemental poems, reminding us that the right words can both comfort us and enlarge our understanding of lifeâ <sup>TM</sup>s mysteries.From the Hardcover edition.

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