

**Title** What Comes from the Nights: Poems

**Author** John Taylor

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"John Taylor's masterful poems show us how to trust in the seeable world."

- Katie Lehman, author of Emily Dickinson's Lexicon

"Despite their visual aspect, these extraordinary poems are not fragments. Paradoxically, though crystals in the conciseness of their meaning, they are wildflowers culled from a moment's awareness, and pressed between a notebook's leaves. John Taylor recomposes these instants without exalting them: he achieves a verbal ascesis, the music of restraint."

- Hoyt Rogers, author of Thresholds and Sailing to Noon

"As if on his first day on earth, with the eyes of a child and a man of ancient times, John Taylor writes by listening to a mystery that lives in each thing."

— Franca Mancinelli, author of All the Eyes That I Have Opened

"Reading John Taylor's *What Comes from the Night* is what it feels like to not just be part of the universe, to not just deeply explore it, observe it, name its many aspects or live under its conditions, but rather to merge with all of its particulars, accepting the reality of who we were before being conscious, who we are now while being conscious, and who we'll always be after this kind of consciousness has passed."

- Paul B. Roth, author of Weightless Earth and Moments in Place

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What Comes from the Night: a question is raised and answers are promised. Yet when the poet records what the night has delivered to him in short, thought-provoking verse, new questions are suggested. John Taylor welcomes these gifts of enigmas ever transforming themselves. He also finds them, by day, in a high Alpine valley, amid troubling vestiges chanced upon in Brittany, along the Loire River near which he has long lived, and by imagining himself overlooking an American bay to which a haunting death continues to draw him. His deep-probing lines leave the reader on thresholds.



John Taylor, born in Des Moines in 1952, has lived in France since 1977. He is the author of several volumes of short prose and poetry, most recently *The Dark Brightness* (Xenos Books, 2017), *Grassy Stairways* (The MadHat Press, 2017), *Remembrance of Water & Twenty-Five Trees* (The Bitter Oleander Press, 2018), and a "double book" coauthored with the Swiss poet Pierre Chappuis, *A Notebook of Clouds & A Notebook of Ridges* (The Fortnightly Review Press, 2019). As a polyglot literary critic and translator from French, Italian, and Modern Greek, Taylor has long been a bridge between European literature and English-speaking countries. His translation of Elias Papadimitrakopoulos's stories, *Toothpaste with Chlorophyll & Maritime Hots Baths*, originally published by Asylum Arts in 1992, was republished in 2020 by Coyote Arts.