



Black Crow Dress (Paperback)

By Roxane Beth Johnson

ALICE JAMES BOOKS, United States, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. New.. Language: English . Brand New Book. These poems move forward like a novel in verse with a real understanding of the differences between the past and history. Or, as Johnson herself says in the opening poem, Each one is hungry for a voice music to re-bloom. This is a poet the best readers will be reading for the rest of their lives. --Jericho BrownA haunting collection of lyrically intense persona poems, Black Crow Dress is at once about the emancipation of slaves in their myriad voices as well as a meditation on the self. The collection s lush imagery takes us from churchyard to church, chanting the old spirituals, as Roxane Beth Johnson seeks to embody the spirits of the dead: Clea, Caroline, and Zebedee.From Slave Ancestors Found Unburied in a Dream : Each one is hungry for a voice music to re-bloom them alive in this room like water softens beans. Leaning near, close to me they see my tooth tongue that test doneness, licks stamps hums. Their ear listens to what a hand might fiddle if it had fingers. Stare this way with eyes like smudges

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