



No Brother, This Storm: Poems

Jack B. Bedell

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Governor John Bel Edwards appointed Jack B. Bedell as Louisiana's poet laureate in 2017; if that decision is reflective of all of his others during his time in office, he'll go down in history as one of Louisiana's best. This collection is a tribute to Bedell's native South Louisiana—its culture, traditions, and landscape. A professor of English at Southeastern Louisiana University, he directs the Louisiana Literature Press.

MORNING, VIGIL

*My uncle knew nothing still
wants to be moved.
He'd captained boats most of his life,*

*learned this pushing barges
around the intracoastal canal
by moonlight. It's why*

*he'd walk five blocks to St. Bernadette
in total darkness to wake priests
for weekday mass, why he'd stand*

*or kneel, but never sit
for services, every part of him
flowing and vigilant.*

MATT SUTHERLAND (September/October 2018)

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