



Shift

Kelly Shepherd

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These poems are filled with awe and celebration, sadness, and ironic humour as Shepherd explores the themes of human relationships with the natural world including connection, alienation, and the negative impacts of human activity on nature; interspecies kinship – ecological as well as animistic and shamanic; and intersections of ecology and industry.

Shepherd uses numerous voices and perspectives, and such arrangements bring about a variety of moods. Whether his subjects are starlings or tamaracks, woodchucks or grizzly bears, the ever-present magic of nature guides not only the mode but directs each poem's tone toward some unique perspective:

Some spiders know the correct use of magic
knots to tie a cluster of Oregon grape
into one single dusty purple berry. If a

black bear swallows it under the right moon
he or she will become a powerful shaman,
able to speak the languages of spiders.

But while there is a dominance of the natural world found in the poems, they also reflect the numerous meanings of the title: a shift of perspective or point of view, physically moving or shifting position, transforming or changing form or physical appearance, shifting gears while driving a vehicle, working the night shift, and so on. The book's title is also taken from the title of one specific poem in the collection that encapsulates some of these central ideas.

Living and working on the land and bodily experiences of specific places also have their place in Shepherd's poems. These portraits ensure a kind of visceral connection or memory to the poems as they invite reader comparisons to their own work experiences:

Your job is to take the cement –
grey-green, ugly, utilitarian, dusty and not just dusty but
poisonous, abrasive, blocky, sharp-edged, impossibly heavy
and dangerous in slings from overheard lifts –
and transform it into something else.

Pull off the present disk,
fingers fat with heavy rubber gloves,
and whack the grinder wheel's Velcro pad
down onto the next one waiting;

Shift is a collection of poems that leave an indelible mark that we humans are interconnected and that we are intrinsically bound to the natural world. They are poems that champion the beauty and resilience of nature and remind us that we need to protect our relationships with it.

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From reader reviews:

Peter Zimmerman:

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information currently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider when those information which is inside former life are challenging to be find than now is taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one typically the resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take Shift as the daily resource information.

Margaretta Lee:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world may share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the story that share in the guides. But also they write about the data about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this Shift.

Paul Anderson:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book Shift it is rather good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book features high quality.

Beverly Barber:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This book Shift was bright colored and of course has pictures around. As we know that book Shift has many kinds or genre. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. Therefore not at all of book are generally make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and rest. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading which.

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