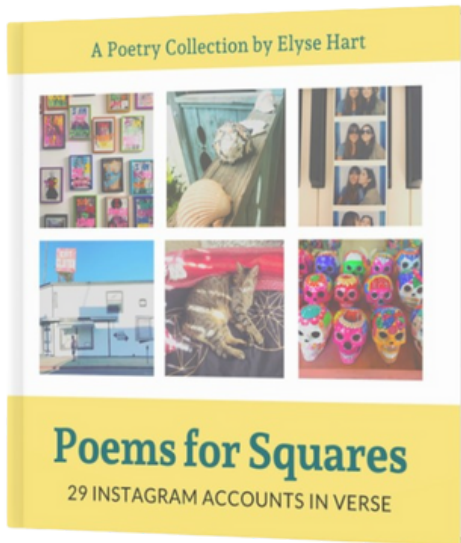


Poems for Squares

29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE



ABOUT THE BOOK

Take a peek inside the lives of 29 individuals with this vibrant collection of poems and the Instagram photos that inspired them. *Poems for Squares* takes you on a journey through life's Instagrammable moments—from the boisterous birthday party to the introspective sunset hike. Elyse Hart's verses celebrate the wonderful rollercoaster that is life. (At least as it appears on Instagram!)

About the Author

ELYSE HART

Elyse Hart is a writer from Los Angeles where she lives with her cats, Asher and Fiona Apple. She is the author of the chapbook *White Noise Crucible* (Bottlecap Press) and has been featured in *Slipstream*, *The Nervous Breakdown*, *Ghost City Review*, *Maudlin House*, and others. She maintains an Instagram account for poetry @elysehartpoetry.



CONTACT ELYSE

Email: elysehart@gmail.com
Phone: (714) 504-0524
Website: www.elysehart.com
IG/FB/Twitter: @elysehartpoetry

SELL INFO

Title: Poems for Squares:
29 Instagram Accounts in Verse
Author: Elyse Hart
ISBN: 978-0-578-27392-1
Publisher: Lint Ball Press
RRP: 19.95
Release Date: March 15, 2023
Trim: 8.5" x 8.5" Paperback
Page Count: 76
Photographs: Color
Genre: Poetry
BISAC: Poetry/Women Authors
Available From: Amazon,
barnesandnoble.com, IngramSpark

ADVANCED PRAISE

"In this vibrant and inventive collection, Elyse Hart uses wit, wisdom, and soul to absorb the technicolor rainbows of seemingly disparate photos, invents new colors to repaint pictures, and creates new imagined lives beyond the camera lens. With these poems, Elyse takes square Instagram photos and extends them into new and exciting boundaries free of any borders."

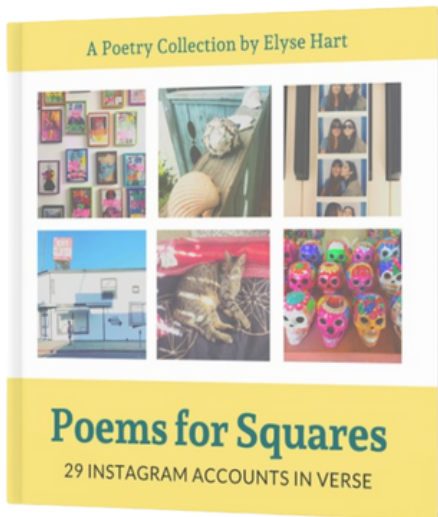
-Rich Ferguson, Beat Poet Laureate of California ('20-'22) & editor of *Beat Not Beat* (Moontide Press)

"For its humor, for the unintended worlds created out of the still lives of *Instagrammers*, for the personas Elyse births - this volume complete with its ekphrastic partners reminds us there is no writer's block...open your eyes and look in any direction. There is your inspiration. "

-Rick Lupert, author of *God Wrestler* and *I Am Not Writing a Book of Poems in Hawaii*

Elyse Hart expanded ekphrastic poetry's possibilities with this charming book in conversation with the visual pleasures of 29 Instagrammers. Elyse's vibrant poems envoke these parties, friendships, cats, landscapes, babies, guitars, desserts, vacays, tattoos, flowers, and, of course, selfies. A witty companion to the joys of scrolling through the pics of friends and strangers.

-Camille Guthrie, author of *Diamonds* (BOA Editions)



Poems for Squares

29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE

Los Angeles, CA, USA, January 4, 2023

What would my life look like in poem form? Twenty-nine people asked Elyse Hart that question when she posted on Instagram that she would write a poem about anyone who wanted one. The kicker? The poem would be based on their Instagram photos. To be released on March 15, 2023.

Poems for Squares: 29 Instagram Accounts in Verse is a compilation of the poems that followed.

"My aim in writing these poems was to delight the people who received them. From the reactions I got, my project achieved its goal."

-Elyse Hart, author, *Poems for Squares*

Elyse Hart is a writer from Los Angeles where she lives with her cats, Asher and Fiona Apple. She is the author of the chapbook *White Noise Crucible* (Bottlecap Press, 2022) and has been featured in publications such as *Slipstream*, *The Nervous Breakdown*, *Maudlin House*, *Ghost City Review*, and others. She maintains an Instagram account for poetry @elysehartpoetry.

Poems for Squares is a lively collection of 116 photographs and 29 poems about regular people's lives. The poems are ekphrastic, that is, they are written about other people's works of art—in this case, their Instagram photos.

Jaunty as it is poignant, the poems in this collection fit the mood of the photos they describe, making *Poems for Squares* a rollercoaster of the ups and downs of life (at least life as it appears on Instagram). Available in 8.5" x 8.5" hardcover, this collection makes the perfect coffee table conversation piece.

Visit <https://www.elysehart.com/poemsforsquares> for more information and to register for the upcoming *Poems for Squares* Book Launch Event, to be held in Los Angeles, CA and virtually.

#poetrybook #womenpoets

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Elyse Hart, elysehart@gmail.com
(714) 504-0524

www.elysehart.com/poemsforsquares



A Poetry Collection by Elyse Hart

Poems for Squares

29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Q: Why did you start this project? What prompted you to start writing poems for people about their Instagram photos?

A: It started in the summer of 2019 with my friend Hillary's cat, Popsicle. She joked that I should write a poem about him and I was totally down. I referred to his Instagram (yes, Popsicle has an Instagram account) for inspiration...kind of like painting a portrait with words and referring to a photo. So "Popsicle Is Driven to Drink" is the poem that started it all.

Q: How many people requested poems to be written for them?

A: There are 29 poems in this book, but more than 29 people requested...I had a backlog of some people I never got to. But I guess my attention span for this project had petered out at that point, which is totally appropriate given the nature of social media. I began focusing on other aspects of my writing and music at that point.

Q: What were people's reactions when you delivered the poems?

A: People were mostly delighted. I think they appreciated being seen, for someone to notice the details of their photos and lives. I had someone tell me they felt very seen. I had one friend who demanded a rewrite and told me to "go deeper". Haha, I obliged.

Q: What is your process for writing about Instagram photos?

A: I go to their grid and peruse their photos till something strikes me as poetic, then words start coming to me. It's mostly about flow with these poems and very little about structure. I would say these poems are virtually structureless.

Q: How do you balance humor and emotion while creating a cohesive collection?

A: The way these poems materialized is a reflection of who I am. I come off as a very un-serious and sort of....irreverent--I guess-person, but within me, there is a sweet, sentimental side. These poems are the same way.

Q: Where did you draw inspiration for this collection?

A: I was introduced to ekphrastic poetry by Camille Guthrie when I read her poem "A Young Daughter of the Picts" in a 2019 issue of The Iowa Review. It was fabulous...and carried a lot of humor. I began this project some months later.

Q: What do you get out of writing poems for other people?

A: It's an interesting creative challenge and endless way to provide myself with writing prompts. On the other hand, it connects me on a deeper level with the people I write about. I feel bound to that person in a way.

Q: Do you think there will be a Volume 2 of Poems for Squares?

A: Absolutely. Well, we'll see how Volume 1 does and if there is any interest. I have grown so much as a writer since this project and so much has happened. I would love to see how a fresh batch turns out.

Q: Which is your favorite poem in the collection?

A: It's "Dog People Want to Be Cats" because it's totally absurd and features a cat in a dres, and I'm a big cat freak.

A Poetry Collection by Elyse Hart

Poems for Squares

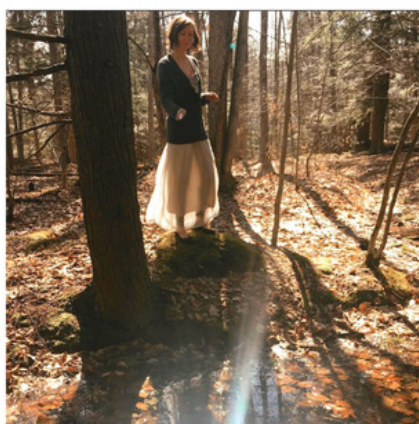
29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE

EXCERPT

Cottagecore Forever

for Caitlin Gemmell

Handful of blue florets
five petals
dusting my life, my
love line, my
tea leaves read
enchanted simplicity, my
basket heaves
with scraps we've
scraped with our
two hands to eat
of the earth, my
feet touch the land
where stumps erupt
and stones are sprinkled
and placed
just so as I hold
a wood thrush
in my hands.



@caitlin.gemmell

A Poetry Collection by Elyse Hart

Poems for Squares

29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE

Things Get Jesus-y in the Desert

for Caleb Kneeven

Empty is this place
the guts disgraced,
the armchair concerned
with eschatology.

God is love God is
my church in tow
on a broken down truck
tattooed in repentance and sin.

The desert is barren and grim,
we stare to the sky,
let light make shapes
on our retinas
and if one of them
looks like Jesus on toast,
then, hallelujah!

They left the trailer
when life became all
Bud Light and chili beans—

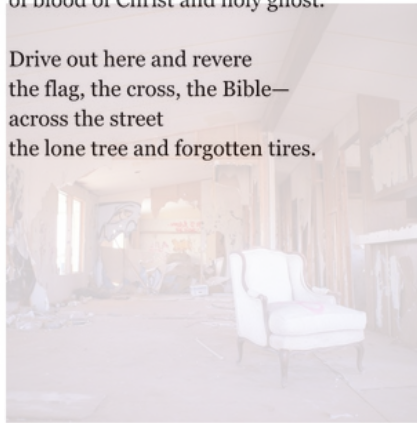
a lens flare will bring beauty
to this scene.

When X marks the spot,
follow it to the heart,
'cause for chrissake God is love!

No really—GOD IS LOVE!!

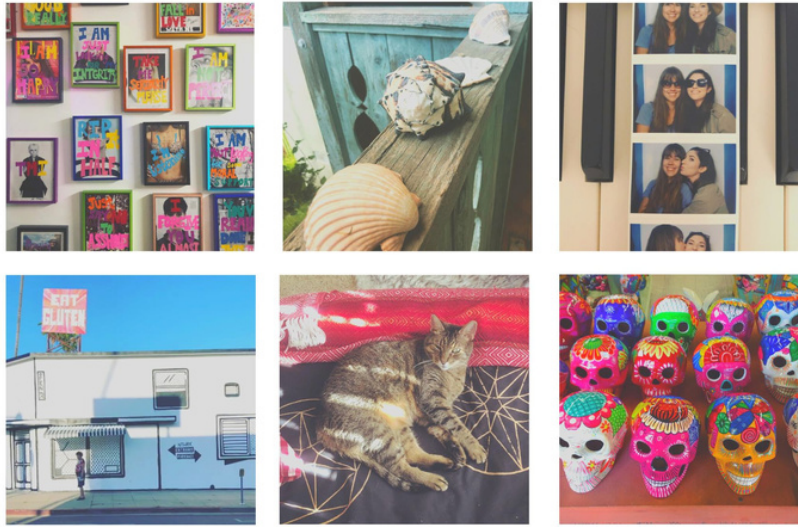
We paint the desert our palette
of blood of Christ and holy ghost.

Drive out here and revere
the flag, the cross, the Bible—
across the street
the lone tree and forgotten tires.



@calebkneeven

A Poetry Collection by Elyse Hart



FRONT COVER

Poems for Squares

29 INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS IN VERSE

What would my life look like as a poem?

Take a peek inside the lives of 29 individuals with this vibrant collection of poems and the Instagram photos that inspired them. *Poems for Squares* takes you on a journey through life's Instagrammable moments—from the boisterous birthday party to the introspective sunset hike. Elyse Hart's verses celebrate the wonderful rollercoaster that is life. (At least as it appears on Instagram!)

"In this vibrant and inventive collection, Elyse Hart uses wit, wisdom, and soul to absorb the technicolor rainbows of seemingly disparate photos, invents new colors to repaint pictures, and creates new imagined lives beyond the camera lens. With these poems, Elyse takes square Instagram photos and extends them into new boundaries free of any borders."

-Rich Ferguson, Beat Poet Laureate of California (2020-2022) and editor of *Beat Not Beat* (Moontide Press)

"For its humor, for the unintended worlds created out of the still lives of Instagrammers, for the personas Elyse births – this volume complete with its ekphrastic partners reminds us there is no writer's block...open your eyes and look in any direction. There is your inspiration."

-Rick Lupert, author of *God Wrestler* and *I Am Not Writing a Book of Poems in Hawaii*

Elyse Hart expanded ekphrastic poetry's possibilities with this charming book in conversation with the visual pleasures of 29 Instagrammers. Elyse's vibrant poems envoice these parties, friendships, cats, landscapes, babies, guitars, desserts, vacays, tattoos, flowers, and, of course, selfies. A witty companion to the joys of scrolling through the pics of friends and strangers.

-Camille Guthrie, author of *Diamonds* (BOA Editions)



Elyse Hart is a writer from Los Angeles where she lives with her cats, Asher and Fiona Apple. She is the author of the chapbook *White Noise Crucible* (Bottlecap Press) and has been featured in *Slipstream*, *The Nervous Breakdown*, *Maudlin House*, *Ghost City Review*, *The Los Angeles Press*, and others.

Website: www.elysehart.com
IG/Twitter: @elysehartpoetry



BACK COVER

SAMPLE SOCIAL POSTS

FOR INSTAGRAM

What you find in the way back of your pantry when you're too lazy to go to the grocery store.



Poems for Squares

@elysehartpoetry

ELYSE HART
Author of Poems for Squares

has been featured in publications such as

- Slipstream
- The Nervous Breakdown
- Maudlin House
- The Los Angeles Press
- Poetry Super Highway
- Okay Donkey
- Rogue Agent
- Ghost City Review
- and others



EVENT SCHEDULE

Join us this Saturday

- 9:00am - Select readings
- 10:00am - Q&A (Author/Participant)
- 11:00am - Open mic
- 12:00pm - Shop and refreshments

Register online at www.elysehart.com

“photogenic as fuck,
calla lily so graceful
swirling its petals for me

ELYSE HART, POEMS FOR SQUARES

WWW.ELYSEHART.COM



POLISHING YOUR POETRY
LIKE A PRO
WORKSHOP

20 MAR 2022 RUN BY ELYSE HART

WWW.ELYSEHART.COM


Poems for Squares

“constrictors like unfeathered
boos
round the shoulders
in the green haze of
underground passageways,
exchanges go on for days
or minutes or
I don't know, man,
I lost count.”

From the poem
“All the Melixcos”
for Kara



ELYSE HART




ELYSE HART

Poems for squares

Release Date
2023


Be on the lookout for this lively and delightful poetry collection written especially for Instagram.



A poetry collection about regular people's Instagram accounts.

WWW.ELYSEHART.COM

LAUNCHING SOON
POEMS FOR SQUARES



VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR

PRESALE



Poems for Squares

“E-cigs are just a ploy
for the electric company
to charge you
to charge more—
dat ass, tho!
Unscheduled as it is bare.

When we die,
our bodies become the grass,
the antelope eat the grass
and then our skeletons ride bikes
all around Tucson.”

From the poem
“Strut Tuscon in Gold Lamé”
for Santiago

[www.elysehart.com](http://WWW.ELYSEHART.COM)

Poems for Squares

“The desert is barren and grim,
we stare to the sky,
let light make shapes
on our retinas
and if one of them
looks like Jesus on toast,
then, hallelujah!”



ELYSE HART

From the poem “Things Get Jesus-y in the Desert” for Caleb

Poems for Squares



“Behind our masks,
we are not fierce
not cunning, not lovely—
we are wholly human:
imperfect creatures
grasping into night,
the shrieks of inner children
piercing the navy sky.
But with a mask,
we are who we like—
and can we agree?
Most people want to be cats.”

From the poem
“Dog People Want to Be Cats”
for Diego

ELYSE HART

Boss: Can you get this to me in the next hour?
Me:



YEP

POEMS FOR SQUARES