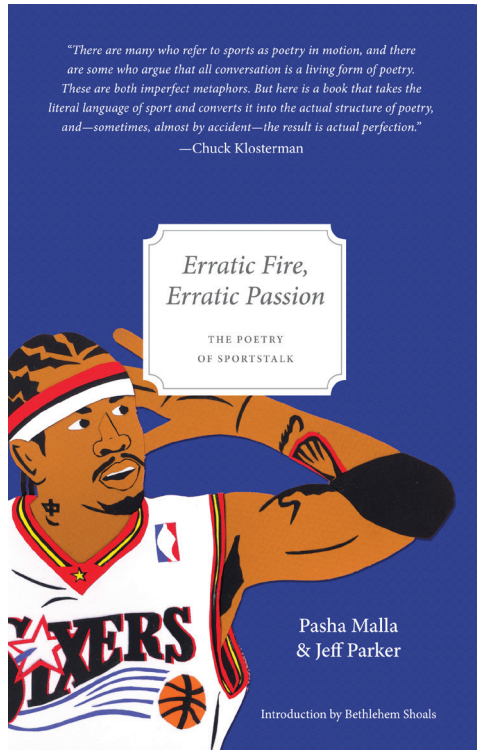


ERRATIC FIRE, ERRATIC PASSION

BY JEFF PARKER + PASHA MALLA

ILLUSTRATED BY NATHAN MCKEE



Featherproof Books is proud to announce the publication of *Erratic Fire, Erratic Passion*, a collection of poetry by Jeff Parker and Pasha Malla composed of the words of professional athletes, illustrated by Nathan McKee (October 2015).

The content of post-game interviews and sports chatter is so often meaningless, if not insufferable, and yet there are athletes like Metta World Peace who transcend lame clichés and rote patter, who use language in surprising ways, who can be funny and shocking and insightful and alarmingly sincere — pure poetry. Muhammad Ali offered dazzling displays of lexical wizardry, and Allen Iverson's infamous "practice" rant shifted the post-game press conference from the banal to the absurd.

Featuring an introduction by award-winning sports writer Bethlehem Shoals, *Erratic Fire, Erratic Passion* is a celebration of these rare and exceptional moments. Various poetic forms and line-breaks highlight — or, in the words of Deion Sanders, "deem to set a candor on" — the sophisticated, sublime, and surprising performances of language made by professional athletes.

ERRATIC FIRE,
ERRATIC PASSION
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Pasha Malla
illustrated by:
Nathan McKee

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ADVANCE PRAISE:

"There are many who refer to sports as poetry in motion, and there are some who argue that all conversation is a living form of poetry. These are both imperfect metaphors. But here is a book that takes the literal language of sport and converts it into the actual structure of poetry, and—sometimes, almost by accident—the result is actual perfection."
— Chuck Klosterman, author of *I Wear the Black Hat*

JEFF PARKER'S books include *Where Bears Roam the Streets: A Russian Journal*, the novel *Ovenman*, and the short story collection *The Taste of Penny*. He teaches in the MFA program for poets and writers at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he lives.

PASHA MALLA is the author of four books, which have been listed for or won the Commonwealth Prize, the Dublin-IMPAC Literary Award, the Giller Prize, and the Trillium Book Award. He's the winner of two National Magazine Awards for humor writing and an Arthur Ellis Award for crime fiction. He lives in Toronto.

NATHAN MCKEE is an artist and illustrator who lives and works in Portland, Oregon. McKee's illustrations and paper cutouts utilize simple lines and flat color, and are inspired by comics, sports, music and other elements of popular culture. His works have been included in exhibitions in Portland, Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Boston and Switzerland. He runs the websites fakeyrowndeath.com and makemtakem.com and has studied at the Pacific Northwest College of Art.

ABOUT FEATHERPROOF:

Featherproof Books was founded in 2005 by Zach Dodson and Jonathan Messinger. In 2014 they passed the torch to Tim Kinsella who, with the help of Jason Sommer and Naomi Huffman, will carry on this mission, publishing strange and beautiful fiction and nonfiction and post-, trans-, and inter-genre tragicomedy.