

*The Game Changed: Essays and Other Prose* presents works by prominent poet and lawyer Lawrence Joseph that focus not only on poetry and poetics, but also on what it is to be a poet in our time. Joseph takes the reader through the practice and aesthetics of modernism and postmodernism, a lineage that includes Wallace Stevens, William Carlos Williams, and Gertrude Stein, switching critical tracks to major European poets like Eugenio Montale and Hans Magnus Enzenberger, to American poets of great singular talent like Weldon Kees, James Schuyler, and Hayden Carruth, and back to contemporary masters like Marie Perle, Adrienne Rich, and Marilyn Hacker.

Always discerning, especially on issues of identity, subjectivity, form and the pressures of history and politics, Joseph also places his own poetry within its critical contexts, presenting several biographical narratives of his life in Detroit, where he was born and raised, and in New York City, where he has lived in downtown Manhattan for 30 years. These pieces also portray Joseph's Lebanese and Syrian, and Catholic heritages and his 35 years of professional life as a lawyer, distinguished law professor, and legal scholar.

Praise for Lawrence Joseph:

"Poetry of great dignity, grace, and unrelenting persuasiveness ... Joseph gives us new hope for the resourcefulness of humanity, and of poetry."

--John Ashbery

"Like Henry Adams, Joseph seems to be writing ahead of actual events, and that makes him one of the scariest writers I know."

--David Kirby, *The New York Times Book Review*

"The most important lawyer-poet of our era."

--David Skeel, *Legal Affairs*