

# *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions*

By Bob McNeil

In *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions*, celebrated poet, essayist, and artist Bob McNeil explores the importance of love and hope in healing from the pandemic and endemic violence. But perhaps most of all, this collection explores our collective mortality.

Deeply personal while completely universal, this collection was conceived of when McNeil was bedridden with a collapsed lung that endangered his heart. Faced with the real prospect of imminent death, "I culled some of my writing and illustrations in my mind. All in the hope of leaving some kind of testimonial behind."

As a result, *Compositions on Compassion and Other Emotions* is a stunning collection that demonstrates both his creative range and his vision for a more peaceful, loving world. While holding a mirror up to himself, he also holds a mirror up to us all, exploring love and loss in all its complexity, contradictions, and beauty.

"Prepare to be moved, inspired, and forever changed by Bob McNeil's extraordinary work."—CJ Ives Lopez, the Author's Porch

"This collection is a treasure for all of us."—Afaa M. Weaver, author of *A Fire in the Hills*

"...In intellectual, poetic journey through the mind of a thinker. Bob McNeil navigates a runaway train through the neighborhood of our existence."—Abiodun Oyewole of *The Last Poets*



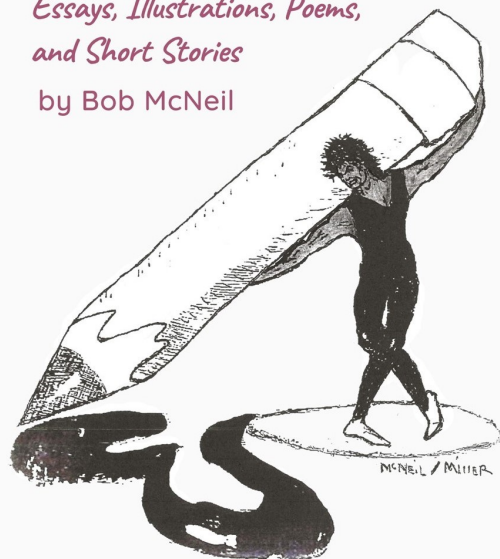
## About the author

Bob McNeil is a writer, editor, and spoken word artist. He served as editor and contributor for *Lyrics of Mature Hearts* (2020), and he is the author of *Verses of Realness* (2018), which Hal Sirowitz called "A fantastic trip through the mind of a poet who doesn't flinch at the truth." McNeil hails from Queens, New York, and currently lives in Connecticut.

## COMPOSITIONS ON COMPASSION AND OTHER EMOTIONS

*Essays, Illustrations, Poems,  
and Short Stories*

by Bob McNeil



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