

# BLACK BOOK

A collection of poetry by Erik Smith

Written from 2005-2012.

Arranged and published in 2015.

A note from Erik Smith:

This is part of a set of poetry books. I wrote in the Blue Book, knowing I was on my way down emotionally. I figured whenever I felt I had turned a sharp corner for better or worse, I would switch what book I was writing in. The next was the Red Book. After that, the Black Book. I am currently writing in the Brown Book, which has no ETA. The first three were released in July of 2015.

## Vegas

step away from the machine  
into the dream  
where it happens right before you

a New name  
a New state  
of being  
and nothing will be the same  
again  
when it's all over  
when you're back again

## Numbness

this isn't right  
what happened  
i don't really understand  
everything was as before  
but not anymore  
something went wrong  
i have to turn back  
i must turn back

## Seizure

I focus  
I lose  
the class  
they see  
i don't  
  
everywhere is lost  
without memory  
and what is next  
inside of me

they can't say it  
I know the truth  
I show them all  
burn to the roots

authority  
powerless  
their rules  
unenforceable

stealing  
telling lies  
no soul  
no loss

surrounded  
excited  
breaking boundaries  
living it up

## Lock and Key

confined  
understood  
fight reality

criminals  
inside walls  
much like me

two years  
adding fears  
all for free

turn to god  
the one I've known  
nowhere to be seen

the pinnacle  
surrounded by concrete  
now understanding

## Born Again

I burst through  
reversed the system  
I see clearly now  
I'm on a mission

no false god  
no confined theology  
work around society  
harness what's inside of me

picked a New road  
the step and narrow  
no God above me  
no safety net below

I move with knowledge  
exciting travels  
while all I once knew  
slowly unravels

building a New me  
of iron and steel  
using life and love  
all I see real

## Expansive

skin on skin  
liquor inside  
another party?  
yeah, let's ride

money can be remade  
time has no such luck  
so we party while we can  
take every chance to fuck

the sun comes and goes  
know we're always here  
removing cancerous souls  
we're careful under fear

we stay strong  
testing out our senses  
pushing ever on  
binging experiences

## The River of Piss

I'm drowning  
shit pelting my head  
rushing down the current

the rocky edges  
gashing my skin further  
bleeding out a torrent

all terrible lies  
building false foundations  
over rapid decent to this

there's no way out  
but give up and drown  
in this stale river of piss

it flows eternal  
surrounded by thorns  
inescapable

no rescue here  
no hope of an end  
a collapsed tunnel

# First Love

tore off together  
care to avoid  
grew into each other  
never annoyed

a long time coming  
the heart does feel  
the mind pulls the line  
fantasies to kneel

the families approve  
my perspective maintains  
nothing here to lose  
healing long lived pains

the floor opens  
reality speeds by  
into the darkness

the hate reveals  
relationship never sealed  
I fall back to darkness

the hole is deeper now  
can't even see the edge  
you can't avoid no ledge

an open wound  
the grand canyon  
no bandage can cross

perfect souls no more  
entirely at fault  
an unimaginable loss

## The Wedding

I stand up front  
With the beauty  
I read my words  
Tears of joy  
I've done my duty

The years have been free  
Of fights and distrust  
I've stayed in the walls  
I've kept out discord  
I've done all I must

But the floor feels thin  
Is it in my head?  
It looks as it should  
With the mass of work  
Is trouble ahead?

I bury the doubt  
Move forward in hand  
Keep the questions inside  
Put the fears behind  
And travel the land

## Old Horizons

Screaming in tears  
An old experience  
With a wife who never  
Hasn't cried or yelled  
Hasn't had the reasons  
Smashing things on the floor

Doors slamming  
Mirrors broken  
Electronics in ruins  
An engine starts  
A loved one departs  
I stand in disrepair

Pieces fall behind me  
As the floor ascends above  
My mind falls within  
I'm doing this again

Where has it gone this time  
What series of events  
How has this happened  
I start popping open drinks

One ten fifty then  
The door is still open  
Wide angle tunnel vision dot closing in  
I cannot handle this again

## Muscle Memory

The room spins

The girl licks

The music pounds

The rage ticks

Tongue up my body

Tits on my dick

I look around the room

For a place to get sick

It comes upon her chest

A flurry of the inside

She laughs and wipes away

Mounts and starts to ride

She's as insane as me

I flip her over

Take her throat

Force my power

Excitement in the eyes

Puddle expands underneath

I hold back from the finish

Release the grip allowing breath

## Purity of Children

Content across the soul

Cartoons in afternoons

Kneeling before bed

Mind a blank slate

Family guarding the body

Caress the precious head

Clean air and car seats

Filter those you meet

Crustless healthy bread

Look both ways

Must be safe in traffic

With moms hand be lead

Show the old request

Smile and listen intently

For soon we'll all be dead

Be good all your life

Do all the good deeds

Our you'll be seeing red

To hell with all the bad

It's where they need to be

Unless to god you've plead

## Single Return

so long away  
will they remember?  
coming on sunday  
this cold november

many questions  
i hope for the time  
mental wounds to heal  
closure will be mine

pastor's son  
i flood into his ears  
christianity is fascist  
wisdom beyond his years

i stand back  
stunned and in thought  
anything expected  
surely this was not

i sit in the service  
feeling i stand apart  
mechanical repetition  
pure hypnotism

look into the flame  
repeat

## Peace in the Cold

it feels like so long ago  
i had the supreme being  
watching very closely  
everything was going smoothly

it was so warm  
it was all beautiful  
it was the beginning  
it was everything

the future was bright  
no matter how bad  
no fear of sickness  
all that we had

now ahead is dark  
darkness all around  
again i have no fear  
still moving forward

maybe it's the past  
filled with pain  
that allows confidence  
to move on again

maybe it's age  
confident i can handle  
anything in that dark  
any single scandal



# Lockup

I've done too much  
Splintered against the grain  
And now I am confined  
In this solitary pain

I've had too much fun  
Pushing every limit  
Now I cannot run  
Forced to act so timid

Back to the holy book  
I focus hope so direly  
I decide it is the time  
To read entirely

Two weeks pass  
My mind grows crass  
What is this I have read  
The months now span  
I read again  
My heart for this has bled

So many questions  
so few reasons  
For these contradictions  
Different views  
Conflicting news  
Such bad explanations

All that looked No longer looks  
My mind now longs in anguish  
How can these things Really be  
I want this doubt extinguished

There must be some logical answers  
Nothing can be this bad  
There can't be these sorts of dangers  
Without some kind of hand

When I get free  
Knowledge will be  
Completed in my head

# Losing Traction

Everything spinning

Everything fading

Everything

Nobody talking

Nobody helping

Nobody

I'm not surviving

I'm not surviving

Falling

Pain is slowly fading

Pain is all I've known

Pain is

now it's over

Now I'm nothing

Now

I'm not surviving

I'm not surviving

falling

dying inside of me

Dying reality

Dying

Lost all my hope

Lost mental spark

Lost

I'm not surviving

I'm not surviving

Falling

Not surviving

Just not surviving

Falling

Falling

Gone

Gone

Done

# God is Void

This is unbelievable  
Seriously, inconceivable  
How could this be everywhere?  
For something true invisible?

How did I believe?  
Something fills this void?  
Security from the blowing wind  
Humanity just someone's toy?

Your god is null  
Nothing at all  
Not a particle  
Nothing at all

Group manipulation  
In every metropolitan  
Maintain those mental walls  
As my old reality falls

God is everywhere  
But she is nowhere  
At every moment  
Ok, well, hello there

Your mind knows this is wrong  
This entire idea is void  
Congregation sang this song  
You cannot be annoyed

My god now null  
Totally gone

He she it, no  
Entirely gone

Out of mind, heart, soul  
release this joy  
Collapsing into itself  
God is void

Walking forward without light  
The darkness of humanity  
The illumination leaves me  
This my largest tragedy  
Walking forward into the night  
Gripping hard on sanity

## **Black Depths**

eyes open  
faint red light  
unbelievable sting  
pushed down  
sharp rocks  
arms can't move  
pressure moving  
need to escape

kick the bottom  
angle self  
use current to rise  
darkness and fire  
stench of piss  
stale and rancid  
fecal matter rushes  
pulled back under

where am i?  
how is this?  
i must survive

## **Born Alone**

the cold air  
bushes for the first time  
the bright light  
first pain of the coming life

the sharp pain  
relentless within  
as the first cut  
takes said extra skin

I can't even adjust  
before I'm alone again  
waiting in the tray  
for hours that pass each day

# Terror

starting to spin  
cannot control  
lungs filling  
unbelievable taste

must learn  
must understand  
adapt and become  
or rise and escape

to succumb  
would be easy  
open mouth  
let it flow in  
all it would take  
stop fighting  
slam against rocks  
let the current win

what is outside  
in the darkness  
could i escape  
can i fight this

mind clouding  
arms and legs  
not responding  
darkness closing in

so much left  
that needs done  
too much there  
which needs seen

losing it all  
sinking in  
the weight  
holding me down

# Institutionalize

say thank you

brush your teeth

say your prayers

now lay beneath

look both ways

eat your peas

hold that door

stay on your knees

respect your elders

know your place

we are in temple

please hide your face

remember jesus

your light and life

he heals the sick

saves you from strife

step in time

stay with the herd

shun the insane

hate the absurd

stand with us

sit for communion

after we die

the sweet reunion

easter bunny

santa clause

noahs ark

satan's claws

water wine

bread and fish

longest line

follow this

rise and shine

# Lay Waste

ships over the horizon  
speeding with silence  
men approaching in boats  
planes dropping violence

televisions blaring  
internet staring  
teenagers fucking downstairs

taking the cash  
buying the food  
errands running out there

check the id  
check the back seat  
police keeping the peace

bombs falling  
rounds sent downrange  
everyone looks up

cars started  
doors opened  
people rush to the base

explosions  
shells landing  
neighborhoods  
being destroyed

the sun rises  
ships sailed away  
fires still burning

no life in the area  
the government being notified  
everything is starting again

# Approach

my broken halo  
like an atom bomb  
sitting crooked on my head

my broken self  
like a wet paper towel  
fucked and frothing at the mouth

my hatred so strong  
all inside myself  
screaming like a million dead

my delusions large  
i am in charge  
and you need to get back to bed

crashing through humanity  
like a tank through a mall  
crackling burning insanity  
i dream of mankind's fall

your faults are there  
i point and yell  
i want your pain to surface

your lies are huge  
a mountain said to be a grain  
i will flatten you

your world is false  
merely a program  
which i am hacking my way into

your sky will crumble  
your life will shatter  
i will make you stumble  
what the fuck's the matter?

the static invades  
scrambling your brains  
freezing your already frigid blood

the shaking approaches  
a reminder to you  
you're out of options  
and the end is rushing forward

my complex is coming  
into your living room  
like a demon running  
a deadly creeping doom



# Dusk

today is fading into tomorrow  
but tomorrow won't go away  
tomorrow will always be there again  
and tomorrow has something to say

the chances you had to make it all better  
are chances you took for granted  
you didn't care about yourselves  
no one cared about each other  
now destroyed are the seeds that were planted

the signs were given to you  
far too many to be overlooked  
the signs were so obvious  
so many lives that i took and shook

but you were too busy with yourselves  
you had to do what you were told  
you pretended to show support  
while reality kept growing old

so look forward to tomorrow  
and remember how it was today  
it's going to get a lot worse  
because yesterday is far away

the blackness that is  
is overcoming  
the blackness that was  
will return  
the blackness that nears  
will become  
the blackness is you

when the lights go out  
and the power is fading  
your reality's end  
is approaching  
the blackness that nears  
will become  
the stress will overcome  
you will succumb  
it will be done

# Escape Artist

everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna be alright  
as long as i get what i want

ive got all the money i need  
more than anyone else  
i already have my foot in your door  
now i want you down on that floor  
dancing with these words you hear  
scream scream scream for more  
wanna see you shake it here

dance dance dance to my money  
dance to my fame  
shake shake shake all that honey  
dance to my name

everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna be alright  
as long as i get what's mine  
everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna be alright  
shake it faster this time

oh wont you love me  
scream my name when i drive by  
oh wont you want me

jack off once i say goodbye  
oh don't you need me  
shaking your ass to my thigh  
oh can't you keep me  
in your cd player  
all the time  
say goodbye

dance dance dance to my money  
dance to my fame  
shake shake shake all that honey  
dance to my name  
dance dance dance to my money  
dance on my frame  
dance shake snake down my jimmy  
sucked till i came

everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna be alright  
as long as i get what's mine  
everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be alright  
as long as we escape  
everything's gonna be alright  
everything's gonna be just fine  
everything's gonna turn out fine  
as long as we escape  
escape with my beat  
escape with your money  
escape with my meat  
escape with my honey  
shake shake shake that honey  
dance dance dance to my money

shake shake shake that honey  
bow down to my money  
sit in my leather seat  
your throat bringing heat  
sit in my leather seat  
escape with my meat  
escape with my meat  
escape with your money

YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE  
WE CAN'T ESCAPE  
I CAN'T ESCAPE

# Form

i look at my flesh  
and imagine it gone  
the bone left alone  
the floor red like dawn

i imagine my eyes  
burning red like the sun  
my shoulders are chipped  
my sanity done

i fall down this hole  
the gap of our lives  
past all of my cares  
through all of my cries

the tremors are strong now  
they shake me apart  
they crumble my life  
they tear down my heart

i see it all clear now  
i see all the pain  
i hear all the troubles  
i fall in the rain

reality is the demon  
that has been haunting  
it creeps behind us  
our flaws it's been flaunting

the hate has taken shape  
it has its own body now  
it is standing under its own will

it is poised and ready to kill  
nothing can slow it down  
nothing can show it reason  
it's inhaling construction  
and exhaling destruction

# Mind Alone

heart clouded by misjudgments  
soul clouded by hate and loathing  
nerves crowded and twitching  
confusion gumming up the system  
fuses blown and bulbs burned out  
headache pounding apart my skull  
my brain locked inside afraid

slipping backwards down the hill  
empty eye sockets bleeding down my face  
flesh shredded and dripping off of bones  
dark liquid leaking out of my ears  
unable to find anything that can replace  
descending once again totally alone  
reviving once destroyed fears  
who next will i have to kill

pushing the machine  
vibrating apart my dreams  
nothing is as it seems

movement hampered by invisible walls  
blinds glued shut, left with what?  
nothing but greed seems to make any calls  
why would i open the door?  
do you think there's anything more?  
the loud sounds every day  
tearing into my brain  
driving me more insane

pushing the machine forward  
shaking me finally apart  
pushing the destroyer onward

driving my demons  
flushing my reasons  
falling into the machine  
this is not just a dream  
nothing as it seems

# Parasite

it is a parasite  
feeding on my mind  
ripping down my will  
terrors of all kind

it puts things inside me  
a will to be destroyed  
a hatred seen by all  
all of this enjoyed

it laughs at my torment  
it grins at my pain  
it loves to spread chaos  
it leaves me in shame

the sounds as it approaches  
i no longer recognize  
the insanity is everywhere  
i cannot compromise  
i can't seem to close my eyes

the fire cannot be stopped  
it consumes everything  
it eats and spends energy  
it tears my very being

it chews through my soul  
i have lost all control  
i cannot stop it's spreading  
my sanity has been shedding  
the destruction is on a roll  
i'm falling down this hole

the end is out of sight  
no hope left here tonight

i call for help  
but nothing cares  
it keeps on laughing  
my logic tears

# Shredded

the woman takes my hands  
and leads me to her den  
she lays me on the floor  
she approaches me then

her lips near my ears  
she tells me to be still  
she runs them down my chest  
she fills me with a thrill

my darkness seems to lift  
for just a moment or two  
my life seems to pause  
i know just what to do

my arms above my head  
i am given so much pleasure  
my joy builds up forever  
but to what destructive measure?

the curtains fall to the ground  
the black light blows out the candles  
the purple wings of her demon  
jut out like wicked mantles

i panic and try to run  
but her claws dig into my back  
i collapse and fade away  
once again all now is black

looking down on the pieces  
i cannot seem to recall

what the fuck went wrong  
what caused this dark fall

# Reality

the grass  
it's not ok  
see over there  
lets go that way

on rocks  
where i am  
big tall fence  
do what i can

make friends  
we have some fun  
they see the grass  
that way they run

rich price  
stand resolute  
i don't desert  
i watch them convoluted

i look around  
new people  
should i connect?  
oh, a steeple

look through  
they play in grass  
rocks grind beneath my feet  
well, they can kiss my ass

fence down  
bodies all around  
no god

grass now red  
i'm now free  
whichever ground



## Pulse

my heart of stone  
pumping lava  
through circuitry  
forever

or will it?  
what is that pain?  
that massive loss  
that holocaust

my heart changes  
flowing in reverse  
lava cooling  
burning with friction  
turning against me  
crucifixion

can't take this loss  
thought i could  
never would  
there i stood  
as i died  
looking at her body

## Return to Feeling

feel a chill  
i lay in blood  
none my own  
human

new eyes  
realize  
all lies  
scrutinize

no return  
this pressure  
no return  
i resist  
no return  
i continue  
no return  
push through  
no return

no return

no return

# Assertive

you pulled it off  
no surprise  
not again  
it won't happen again

here we are  
yes we are  
resolute  
revolution

you'll have to...  
martial law  
pull all power  
to yourself

what then?  
think we'll sit?  
hands down?  
never.

you'll get it  
when you see  
the masses  
off their asses  
crashing in

you think  
your men have  
enough  
bullets?  
to our bodies?

are you fast enough?  
to hide yourself?  
take the rest out  
  
just one pretzel  
you don't have a chance  
taste of copper approaches

# Insertion

my prison is my own  
the doing of myself  
and the walls are strong

my mind is its own  
a creation of itself  
there is something wrong

outside lies terror  
the kind found in hell  
and i can't get away

outside is everything  
all the under accomplished  
all the hate

i can't find the door  
i'm too afraid  
i can't find the will to walk

there's a devil outside  
and there's one in here  
yet i have nothing to fear

but for some reason  
i cannot move  
and i cannot breathe

i close my eyes  
as the room spins  
i close my eyes  
as it opens

i am arriving  
you can't win

# Assert

it wakes  
it moves  
it's scales  
tear through  
the past  
starts change  
currents  
pass through  
the mind  
this time  
not mine  
but something else

i'm doing well  
no looking back  
i have grown  
will not attack

i wear this smile  
hide in my style  
let negativity  
glide on through  
no looking back  
blow off attack

great job  
great wife  
projects  
great life  
cash flow  
low bills  
loves grow  
good fun

long sleep  
i smile  
things turned out well

i'm doing well  
no looking back  
i have grown  
will not attack

i wear this smile  
hide in my style  
let negativity  
glide on through  
no looking back  
blow off attack

new hope  
long life  
love life  
half life

turn off the tv  
leave the city  
keep away  
from the war  
stay clear  
of the raids  
stay in peace  
while the sun sets  
the end of days

i'll be back  
in this life  
locked away  
from your reality

# Tenderness

what i fought  
swore, never  
i will refuse  
forever

it's hardwired now  
down to bone  
a smile on my face  
no path home

i'm part of the machine  
i'm helping it run  
i'm grease in the machine  
and i'm having fun

no mirrors  
to see the past  
binoculars  
tunnel vision  
it's coming on fast  
particulars  
and i'm winning  
no fears

i'm part of this machine  
and i'm helping it run  
i'm grease in the machine  
and i'm having fun

where am i  
and how  
who am i  
right now

i have traction  
a slim with a smile  
with long hair  
legs for a mile

mutual attraction  
touching dirties  
time is flying  
a week turns thirty

where am i  
and how  
who am i  
right now

i'm part of the machine  
still helping it run  
i'm grease in the machine  
still having fun

where did i go  
how did i switch  
i fell inside  
and here i twitch  
do i return?  
will i?  
is this better?  
it's still inside

# Broken Souls

the hopeful ones  
who tried so long  
who thought this out  
we all were wrong

we all fell down  
and brought this on  
our targets kings  
but all were pawns

we stabbed through flesh  
to meet cold steel  
all that we knew  
just wasn't real

now all alive  
have been enslaved  
a secret force  
has been enraged

we took down all  
each piece we knew  
but underneath  
a nation grew

one thousand men  
stood as a front  
what sat untold  
we would confront

we squashed a gnat  
pissed off a bee

that killed us all  
enslaved the free

now we lay  
among the dead  
the hope now lost  
our blood now shed

armies in the streets  
bodies fill ditches  
borders long erased  
freedom in stitches

a planet alone  
no place to call home  
a planet alone  
will this last forever?