

“There is perhaps no greater challenge for a poet than to make powerful and memorable art from the shards of a broken marriage. But in poem after poem in this wonderful debut, with insight and wit and not a trace of sentimentality, Lauren Bryant has done exactly that. These poems burn with inconsolable longing. This is a collection you’ll want to return to often.”

—Jeff Worley, author of *Best to Keep Moving*
and editor of *What Comes Down to Us:
25 Contemporary Kentucky Poets*



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Lauren J. Bryant was raised in Louisville, Kentucky. She settled in Bloomington, Indiana, after experimenting with life on both coasts. She has been an editor for twenty-five years and is co-editor of *Women with Wings: An Anthology* (Pen & Publish, 2009).



Now Comes the PETITIONER

by **Lauren J. Bryant**