

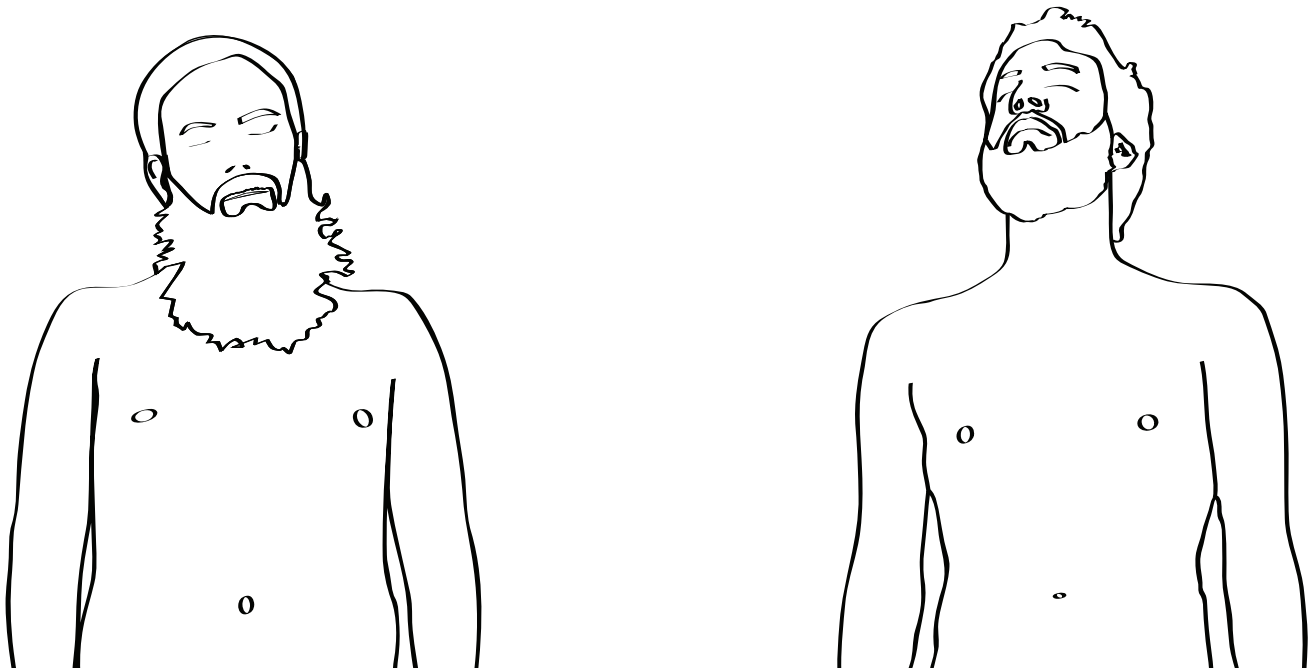
# THE TARANTULAS IN THE HAYSTACK TOUR (PART 2)

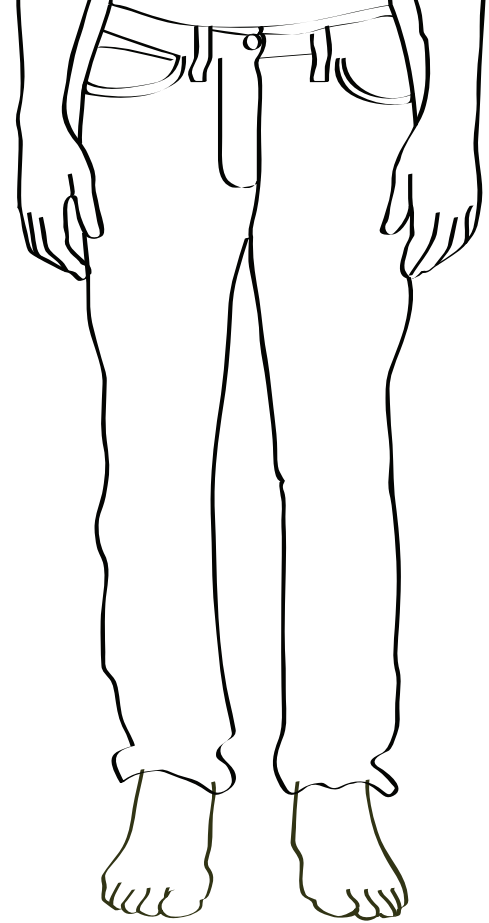
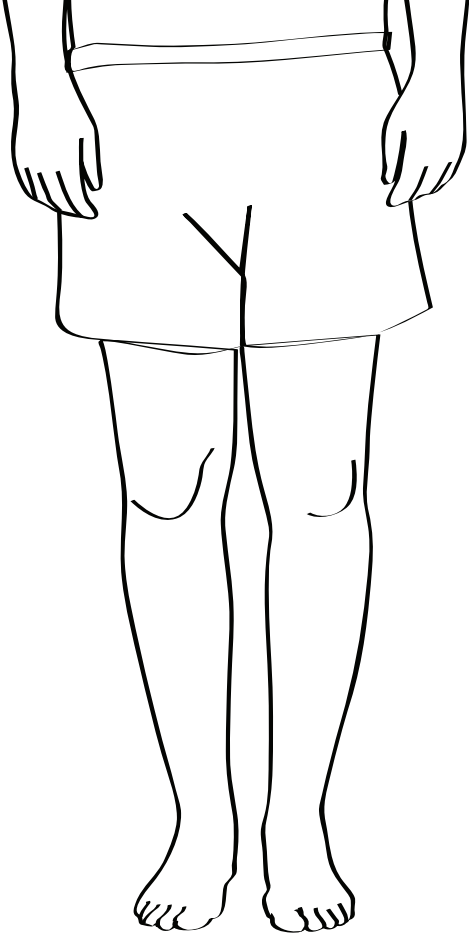
THE TARANTULAS IN THE HAYSTACK TOUR (PART 2) is set to be one of the finest of its kind. A Nebraskan poet and a writer from Texas have teamed up to tour the southland, performing their unique brand of off-kilter, heart-wrenching, gut-sagging, beard-growing, ET-phone-homing, glass-shattering, earthquake-inducing spoken word. Born into the haystack and clawing their way out, Ben Clark and Colin Winnette are ready to pick up where they left off three months ago with a glorious tour of the Midwest.

Touring in support of Winnette's debut novel, **REVELATION** (Mutable Sound 2011), and Clark's recent release, **REASONS TO LEAVE THE SLAUGHTER** (Write Bloody 2011), the two have refined a routine that emphasizes the liveliness of their written work, its humanity, and the distinctness of each voice.

**REVELATION**, Colin Winnette's debut novel, is a startlingly simple, fresh and audacious retelling of the famous biblical apocalypse tale. Winnette's **REVELATION** is, on the one hand, a very everyday and modern story, in which desperate characters wander and slip from one year to the next, but behind what would otherwise be a mundane detail lies an architecture of the supernatural—a father carries his son to his grandfather's retirement community, but does so across a parking lot consumed in a plague of locusts, two childhood friends construct a fort from the hull of an enormous ship abandoned by the oceans as they recede, a body falls from the sky as a warning, but only demolishes the deck of a character's lake-side home.

In **REASONS TO LEAVE THE SLAUGHTER** Clark delicately balances between beauty and brutality. Within this balance, he dedicates his poems to the stories we tell each other: to remember, to teach, to define ourselves as human beings. These are poems that grapple with death, distance, solitude, love, faith, and belonging. These poems discover, sing, shake, and ask for forgiveness, than stomp around swearing and kicking over grain silos. From cornfields to sailboats adrift in the ocean to fathers warning sons about ghost hay bales to endless laughter and song emerging from the Chicago night these poems dazzle again and again.





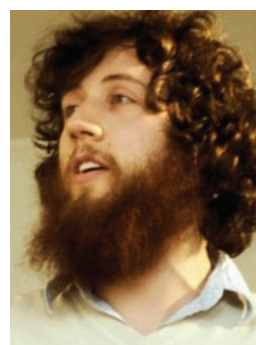
## BEN CLARK



**BEN CLARK** grew up in rural Nebraska and now lives in Chicago, Illinois where he is currently a graduate student at the Art Institute of Chicago, and an assistant editor for *Muzzle Magazine*. He has worked as an English teacher, librarian, tile

maker, track coach, and in a microwaveable popcorn factory. He performs, workshops, and teaches poetry all across the country. His first book **REASONS TO LEAVE THE SLAUGHTER** was published by *Write Bloody Publishing* in April 2011. For more information and links to more work visit [benclarkpoetry.com](http://benclarkpoetry.com).

## COLIN WINNETTE



**COLIN WINNETTE** is a writer and performer living in Chicago, IL. He was a finalist for the 1913 First Book Award, judged by Fanny Howe. His first novel, **REVELATION** (*Mutable Sound*, 2011) received Honorable Mention in the

Leap Frog Press Fiction Contest. For more information and links to more work visit [colinwinnette.com](http://colinwinnette.com).

## THOUGHTS ON BEN'S WORK:

"...we can scarcely tell where the literal ends and the wonder begins...an Armageddon of tension holding together taut strands of unbelievable beauty and charismatic curiosity."

—Roger Bonair-Agard, author of *Gully* and *Tarnish and Masquerade*

"Clark's poems understand the weirdness of living, of loving and being loved, of grit and breath and what bangs around in our everyday bodies. Made of asphalt and sweat and farm dirt, these are honest, important poems. I love their singing."

—Marty McConnell, co-founder of the *Louder-ARTS* project and the *Vox Ferus* writing workshop.

"Reasons To Leave The Slaughter didn't leave me feeling anything, it stays with me—as if it were my pet two-legged dog, who snaps at everyone but me."

—Robbie Q. Telfer, author of *Spiking The Sucker Punch*, organizer of the *Encyclopedia Show* and *Louder Than A Bomb*.

## THOUGHTS ON COLIN'S WORK:

"In *Revelation*, Colin Winnette sets fire to the world, and in the aftermath, characters wander through smoke, struck dumb by devastation. A forceful book--stripped down, cool, and painful--about the absolute peril of desire."

—Ben Marcus, author of *The Flame Alphabet*, *Notable American Women*, and *The Age of Wire and String*

"Alternating the apocalyptic with the laconic, the end-of-times with the poignantly down-to-earth, *Revelation* is full of fine surprises. Colin Winnette has a sharp eye, a good ear, an ironic spirit and, like a smaller scale Terrence Malick, he's made a provocative work by framing the ordinary in the unfathomable."

—Rosellen Brown, author of *Tender Mercies*, "Before and After" and "Civil Wars"

"Keep your eye on this Colin Winnette. He's a gifted stylist, and quite often a funny one."

—Adam Levin, author of *Hot Pink* and *The Instructions*

## BOOKING INFORMATION

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE A BOOK

[writebloody.com](http://writebloody.com)  
[mutablesound.com](http://mutablesound.com)  
[benclarkpoetry.com](http://benclarkpoetry.com)  
[colinwinnette.com](http://colinwinnette.com)

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