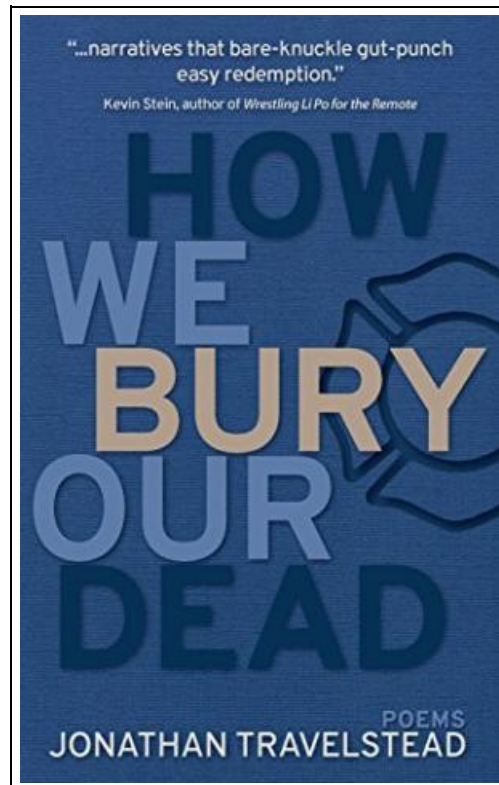


## How We Bury Our Dead



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*(Kristy Stroman)*

## HOW WE BURY OUR DEAD



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Cobalt Press, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 201 x 124 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Jonathan Travelstead s debut collection of poetry, HOW WE BURY OUR DEAD, follows a speaker who is coping with the death of his mother. He places himself in life-threatening and self-alienating situations in an effort to shield himself from grief. This collection takes the reader on Travelstead s journey as a volunteer in the National Guard in Kuwait, as a hitch-hiker in an Alaskan winter, and as a man returning home to confront the pressures of his life as a firefighter and the long-delayed acceptance of losing his mother. ADVANCE PRAISE: Jonathan Travelstead maps the quest for his elemental end points and beginnings. Doing so, he spans topography as various as Southern Illinois strip mines, automobile accident scenes, and Iraqi battle zones. What results are narratives that bare-knuckle gut-punch easy redemption. These poems honor the dead and the dying, refusing to avert the eye from certain explosion. It s no wonder the keenest offer prayers for hand tools that do something palpably useful, say, prying open the wrecked heart s flaming chariot of half-spoken desires. -Kevin Stein, author of Wrestling Li Po for the Remote Jonathan Travelstead s fearless poems are about the other in each of us, those sudden illuminations of the self in which we realize we are not alone. The voices of the estranged, the willfully forgotten, and the restless dead inhabit us. In any given moment, a lover s face or gesture reveals a mother we ve run toward and away from all our lives. An electrocuted man s last minutes tick away to reveal our need to both connect with and hide from one another, to rely on comforting fictions to soften...



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