

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

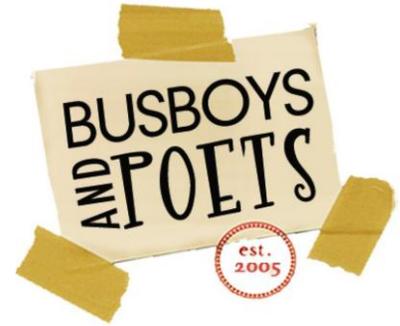
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**Busboys and Poets Press presents:  
Dr. Akbar Ahmed and Derrick Weston Brown**

*Busboys and Poets Press celebrates the release of two poetry collections:  
"Suspended Somewhere Between" by Dr. Akbar Ahmed and  
"Wisdom Teeth" by Derrick Weston Brown.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – April is poetry month and Busboys and Poets will be celebrating with the release of two new poetry collections recently published by **Busboys and Poets Press**.

**Dr. Akbar Ahmed** will present his new poetry collection, "**Suspended Somewhere Between**" on **Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Busboys and Poets' 14<sup>th</sup> & V** location (2021 14th St., NW DC 20009) and **Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Busboys and Poets in Shirlington** (4251 South Campbell Ave., Arlington, VA 22206). Described by the *BBC* as "the world's leading authority on contemporary Islam, Dr. Ahmed is the Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University.

"**Suspended Somewhere Between**" is deeply personal, taking the reader from the forbidding valleys and mountains of Waziristan in the tribal areas of Pakistan to the think tanks and halls of power in Washington, DC; from the rustic tranquility of Cambridge to the urban chaos of Karachi. The collection spans half a century of writing and gives the reader a front row seat to the drama of a world in turmoil.

[https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product\\_detail&p=305](https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=305)

*"Anyone wanting to understand Islam today must read Akbar Ahmed's collection. We are given rare glimpses into the dilemmas, pain, and despair but ultimately love and hope of Muslims through the verses of this true renaissance man."*

—Greg Mortenson, author of *Three Cups of Tea*

**Derrick Weston Brown**, an educator and Busboys and Poets 14th & V Poet-in-Residence, will discuss and read excerpts from his debut poetry manuscript, "**Wisdom Teeth**", on **Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Busboys and Poets' 14<sup>th</sup> & V** location (2021 14th St., NW DC 20009). "**Wisdom Teeth**" reveals the ongoing internal and external reconstruction of a poet's life and world, as told through a litany of forms and myriad of voices, some the poet's own. Derrick Weston Brown holds an MFA in creative writing from American University and has studied poetry under Dr. Tony Medina at Howard University and Cornelius Eady at American University.



**"Wisdom Teeth"** is a questioning work, a redefining of personal relationships, masculinity, race, and history. It's a readjustment of bite, humor, and perspective as Brown channels hip-hop, Toni Morrison, and even the beloved cartoon mountain lion, Snagglepuss, to make way for an eruption of depth and wisdom.

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*"This brilliant first effort is akin to a mixtape, filled with nostalgic hip-hop references—MF Doom, A Tribe Called Quest, and J Dilla, among others—a love letter from a grown man still much enamored of the youth culture today. Found here are playful experiments with the eintou, bop, and brownku, African American forms seldom approached with such mastery."*

—Simone Jacobson, managing editor for  
*Words. Beats. Life: The Global Journal of Hip-Hop Culture*

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**Busboys and Poets** is a restaurant, bookstore, fair trade market and gathering place where people can discuss issues of social justice and peace.

<http://www.busboysandpoets.com/>