

ERBGHIN JUM (FORTY DAYS)

Antoine Cassar

Genre **Poetry** | Publication Year **2021** | Pages **152**

Antoine Cassar is a London-born Maltese poet, translator and editor. He writes in Maltese and English, mostly about maps and borders, cities and language, walking and mental health. Antoine's poetry has featured on *Literary Hub*, RN Books & Arts (Australia), France 3 TV, Radio Nacional de España, SFR2 Kultur (Switzerland), and RTV Slovenija, among others. www.antoinecassar.net

Beyond the themes of walking and insomnia, the poetry of *Erbghin Jum* will resonate in particular with readers who may have experienced childhood trauma related to domestic violence. Launched in 2017 as a concert-reading, this book took many Maltese readers by surprise, for the author's "heart-wrenching account of pains from his youth resurfacing with a vengeance in his adulthood". Cassar's poetry has long been identified for its "creative energy, audacity and eclecticism, with the joys of poetic creation" (Adrian Grima, *Versopolis*). The English self-translation is edited by literary translator Albert Gatt.

This book is like *Way More Than Luck* by Ben Wilkinson (Seren Books, 2019); *Playing Monster: Seiche* by Diana Atherian (1913 Press, 2017); *Indictus* by Natalie Eilbert (Noemi Press, 2018).



In *Erbghin Jum* Antoine Cassar takes readers on a visceral journey through the primal act of walking. Each daytime chapter recounts a walk – real or metaphorical – exploring landscapes of reflection, physicality and sensory pleasure. Nighttime chapters delve into the shadows of childhood, wrestling with madness and paranoia. Through this poignant pilgrimage, Cassar unearths hope, healing and profound understanding.

★ Winner of National Book Prize 2018; shortlisted for European Poet of Freedom award 2020.

To access excerpts of both the original book and its translation, scan the QR code below.



RIGHTS HOLDER AND CONTACT DETAILS

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Translated Excerpt in English **Available** | Translator **Antoine Cassar**