

Award-winning video producer and science publisher, Jeff Volk, turns his gaze inward in this poignant and penetrating poetic storybook, exploring the dynamics of a seemingly intractable relationship. The poems are intensely personal, ranging from playful to painful, yet the themes explored pertain to all who dare to live life fully, to feel deeply, and to dive fearlessly into that mysterious milieu of love, longing, and the promise of transcendence.

I love this book! I read it several times, cover to cover, savoring its richness and the poet's electrifying use of language. As the title suggests, *The Ambiguity of Autumn* abounds with contrasting images, casting a pall of suspense around a love story sketched out with wit and erudition. This collection plays off the subtlety of the title. At first, we are unsure whether the poet is addressing a person, or offering a Keatsian ode to the season of uncertainty—and the vivid illustrations further draw us into the mystery. In time, the message becomes unmistakable . . . and irresistible.

—Hugh Harter, Ph.D., author, *The Countess*, *Flying with Nightingales* and *Tangier and All That*.

Autumn offers two love stories, the love of a man for a woman and the love of a poet for language. Jeff Volk is infatuated with words. Read one of these poems aloud, relishing the resonance, rolling the syllables around on your tongue like candy beach pebbles, you a present-day Demosthenes, declaiming against the roar of the surf.

—Pat Parnell, author of *Snake Woman and Other Explorations: Finding the Female in Divinity* and *Talking with Birches: Poems of Family and Everyday Life*.

The Ambiguity of Autumn poignantly reveals many of the challenges of romantic love. In between, through and around the words, pulsates a raw commitment to exploring love beyond boundaries.

—Victoria Friedman, Co-Founder of Vistar Foundation, dedicated to the power of Collective Consciousness in communication and relationships.

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The Ambiguity of Autumn

THE AMBIGUITY OF AUTUMN

JEFF VOLK

POEMS OF LOVE, LONGING AND TRANSCENDENCE

Jeff Volk