

# Declarations: A Poetic Journey into LGBTQ2 Identity and Transformation

## A Review of Jordan Tannahill's Acclaimed Poetry Collection

In the realm of contemporary LGBTQ2 literature, Jordan Tannahill's "Declarations" stands as a beacon of raw emotion and poetic brilliance. Published in 2018, this captivating collection of poems has resonated deeply with countless readers, offering a profound exploration of the intricacies of LGBTQ2 identity and the transformative power of self-discovery.



### Declarations by Jordan Tannahill

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
Item Weight : 5.3 ounces  
File size : 1167 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 120 pages



Through a series of intimate and honest verses, Tannahill delves into the deeply personal experiences of coming to terms with one's identity, navigating the challenges of societal norms, and embracing the beauty of diversity. With unflinching honesty, the poet lays bare their own struggles and triumphs, inviting readers to embark on a journey of empathy and self-reflection.

One of the defining characteristics of "Declarations" is its fearless exploration of gender fluidity. In poems like "The Girl in the Mirror" and "Self-Portrait as a Man," Tannahill challenges traditional notions of gender, questioning the binary constructs that often limit and define individuals. Through introspective and evocative language, the poet captures the complexities of gender identity, revealing the fluidity and versatility of the human experience.

Furthermore, "Declarations" is a testament to the resilience and strength of the LGBTQ2 community. In poems like "Pride" and "We Are Here," Tannahill celebrates the collective power of resistance and the unwavering spirit of those who have faced adversity. By amplifying marginalized voices, the poet creates a space for solidarity and empowerment, reminding readers that they are not alone in their struggles for acceptance and equality.

The language in "Declarations" is both lyrical and evocative, with Tannahill masterfully crafting each verse to create a distinct atmosphere and emotional resonance. The use of imagery is particularly striking, with the poet drawing upon nature, everyday experiences, and personal memories to evoke a profound sense of connection and understanding.

For example, in the poem "Water," Tannahill compares the fluidity of gender identity to the ceaseless flow of water, writing:

I am a river I am a lake I am a puddle I am an ocean

I am not a boy I am not a girl I am not a man I am not a woman

I am more than all of these I am less than all of these

The comparison between gender identity and water underscores the notion that identity is not static or easily defined but rather a fluid and evolving aspect of the self.

Beyond its thematic depth and lyrical beauty, "Declarations" is also a powerful call to action. In the concluding poem, "The Future," Tannahill envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and acceptance prevails. The poet writes:

We are the future  
We are the ones who will change the world  
We are the ones who will make it better

These lines serve as a reminder that the LGBTQ2 community, and indeed all marginalized groups, have the power to shape a more inclusive and just society. "Declarations" thus becomes not only a literary masterpiece but also an inspiring call for progress and social transformation.

Jordan Tannahill's "Declarations" is an extraordinary poetry collection that transcends the boundaries of personal experience to become a profound exploration of LGBTQ2 identity, resilience, and the transformative power of self-discovery. With its raw emotion, evocative language, and fearless exploration of gender fluidity, "Declarations" is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand the complexities of human identity and the ongoing struggle for equality.

As a testament to its significance, "Declarations" has received widespread critical acclaim and has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Governor General's Award for English-language poetry.

For those seeking a deeply personal and thought-provoking literary experience, "Declarations" is highly recommended. It is a book that will stay with you long after you finish reading it, inspiring reflection, empathy, and a renewed sense of hope for a more inclusive and just world.

## About the Author

Jordan Tannahill is a renowned Canadian playwright, poet, and theatre director. Their work often explores themes of gender identity, queerness, and social justice. "Declarations" is Tannahill's debut poetry collection and has established them as one of the leading voices in contemporary LGBTQ2 literature.

## Further Reading

- Jordan Tannahill's official website
- Guernica Magazine review of "Declarations"
- CBC Radio Q interview with Jordan Tannahill



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