**Mongrel Empire Press Announces *The Stains of Burden and Dumb Luck, a poetry collection by Carolyn Dunn***

Norman, OK 8/31/17—Mongrel Empire Press, an Eclectic Publishing House specializing in regional and uncommon literary works, is happy to announce the publication of *The Stains of Burden and Dumb Luck*, a poetry collection by Carolyn Dunn.

In her third poetry collection, Carolyn Dunn writes about growing up a Native mixed-race person, about historical and personal dislocations and relocations, and her creation of a “new rough song” to accompany her as she moves through the world.

Cherokee writer and artist Kim Shuck, the 7th Poet Laureate of San Francisco, writes that Dunn “illuminates a web of mutual responsibility, dispossession, forced experience and the occasional regret but with a strong and sure hand. The language is muscular, exists on many levels and  reflects a world that many will recognize. This book is going to take  it’s earned place on the bookshelf with other work I go to for self healing.”

Award-winning poet Diance Glancy notes that “For Carolyn Dunn, the act of storytelling is an act of restoration. In her book, The Stains of Burden and Dumb Luck, she covers the cartography of memory. Asking which world is the real one, she forges ahead as if all worlds were real. Dunn often tells her stories in long and narrow lines down the margin of the page, giving her readers an amazing slide down the slippery hill of history and heritage.

Carolyn M. Dunn, PhD., is a Louisiana Creole whose indigenous ancestry includes Cherokee, Muskogee Creek, and Seminole descent on her father's side, and Tunica-Choctaw-Biloxi on her mother's. Born in California as a second-generation urban mestiza, her ancestral roots run deep in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Oklahoma. Her work has been recognized by the Wordcraft Circle of Storytellers and Writers as Book of the Year for poetry (Outfoxing Coyote, 2002) as well as the Year's Best in 1999 for her short story "Salmon Creek Road Kill,” and the Native American Music Awards (for the all-woman drum group The Mankillers' CD *Comin to Getcha*) In addition to *Outfoxing Coyote*, her books include *Through the Eye of the Deer* (Aunt Lute Books, 1999), *Hozho: Walking in Beauty* (McGraw Hill, 2002), Coyote Speaks (H.N. Abrams, 2008), *Echolocation: Poems, Stories and Songs from Indian Country—L.A.* (Fezziweg Press, 2013), and *The Stains of Burden and Dumb Luck*. Her plays *The Frybread Queen* and *Ghost Dance* have been developed and staged at Native Voices at the Autry in Los Angeles, and are published in the Alexander Street Press collection *New Native North American Indian Drama*. She lives in Oklahoma with her family.

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**About Mongrel Empire Press**

Mongrel Empire Press was established in 2007 with a mission to publish well-written, thoughtfully-considered works across generic and disciplinary boundaries. The Press actively identifies and promotes Oklahoma and regional writers while at the same time making room for outside the region works that, because of their mixed generic, disciplinary, and philosophical approaches, cannot find a home at other presses that have a more narrowly defined mission.

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