New Michigan Press is pleased to announce the release of Jessica Johnson’s In Absolutes We Seek Each Other. We love this chapbook, the 2014 winner of the NMP/DIAGRAM chapbook contest, and are pleased to publish it to lead off our 2014 chapbook series.

Joanna Klink says: “Johnson’s poems, full of quiet and gracious observation, are acts of kinship-in-strangeness with the natural world. Even the slightest creatures are alive with vision.”

And Kathleen Flenniken adds: “For a moment, reader, as you orient yourself in one of Jessica Johnson’s poems, you might classify a scene as quiet and scientific, or moody, wet, and metrical; then a shift and, god, it’s luminous and grief-struck and haunting and it’s yours. The linked poems in the book’s first section are a feat of beauty: transformation and lost innocence set in a glimmering laboratory. The second section of ocean dwellers, anatomies, and sea-soaked lyrics is equally remarkable. Jessica Johnson is a true discovery.”

We concur! So, it’s available by mail, at excellent independent booksellers, at Amazon, or best, from our storefront at: newmichiganpress.com/nmp. Here’s the lowdown on the chapbook: 2014. Perfect-bound, 60pp. ISBN 978-1-934832-44-8. Information & for bookstore orders, email us at <nmp@thediagram.com>.

Order Form

Yes! We love you, Jessica Johnson! Send me [ ] copies of In Absolutes at $9 per copy + $2 for postage (in USA). I’ve enclosed cash or a check/money order made out to New Michigan Press. Please send my book(s) to:

27 October 2014

The greenhouse ceiling opens on its gears: a season out of season. Breathing plants enrich the air. In a glass house, revelation.

I am only eye and ear. No one here will know me. The wall of panes, milked up, repaints a tour group as shapes, cascading.

What is a ghost but memory, a net un-bodied, sweeping through a place? Passing through a bit of past to see what catches in the throat.