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From National Book Award and National Book Critics Circle Award finalist Ada Limn comes *The Carrying*—her most powerful collection yet. Vulnerable, tender, acute, these are serious poems, brave poems, exploring with honesty the ambiguous moment between the rapture of youth and the grace of acceptance. A daughter tends to aging parents. A woman struggles with infertility?What if, instead of carrying / a child, I am supposed to carry grief??and a body seized by pain and vertigo as well as ecstasy. A nation convulses: Every song of this country / has an unsung third stanza, something brutal. And still Limn shows us, as ever, the persistence of hunger, love, and joy, the dizzying fullness of our too-short lives. Fine then, / Ill take it, she writes. Ill take it all. In *Bright Dead Things*, Limn showed us a heart giant with power, heavy with blood—the huge beating genius machine / that thinks, no, it knows, / its going to come in first. In her follow-up collection, that heart is on full display—even as *The Carrying* continues further and deeper into the bloodstream, following the hard-won truth of what it means to live in an imperfect world.

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