

Corey Cook

Dreams

I.

I was at the home of an editor of a literary magazine. Books lined up on boards held up by cement blocks. Books in boxes. Books piled up on the nightstand. The editor was handsome. Dark hair. Subtle acne scars. He was wearing a black t-shirt and jeans. Came up behind me and wrapped his arms around my waist. Whispered, *Is this the beginning of our affair?*

II.

My four year old daughter wakes me and says, *I had a dream, Mommy. I was a pink bear and had a little bear friend. I wasn't a Care Bear. There was a monster and he was growling at us so I walked up to him and said "It's okay, monster. We want to be your friends."* I smile at my husband lying opposite me as our daughter looks contemplative. Asks, *Are monsters real?*

No.

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Corey Cook is the author of two chapbooks: *Rhododendron in a Time of War* (Scars Publications) and **What to Do with a Dying Parakeet** (Pudding House Publications). His poems have appeared in *Ballard Street Poetry Journal*, *Chiron Review*, *Entelechy International*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Loch Raven Review*, *Nerve Cowboy*, *Pearl*, *Plain Spoke*, *Willard & Maple* and elsewhere. New work is forthcoming in *The Aurorean*, *The Legendary* and *Wild Goose Poetry Review*. Corey edits *The Orange Room Review* with his wife, Rachael. They live in Vermont with their two daughters.