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"Powerful engines" take charge in Ohio poet's new collection

PITTSBURGH— In *Translations from the Flesh*, Elton Glaser's poems are driven by the powerful engines of love and desire, giving voice to the deep pressures that move us most, body and soul: *I put my native tongue / To work, open to / The dark instincts of ecstasy*, he writes.

Glaser's seventh full-length collection, just released by the University of Pittsburgh Press, offers "poems that explore our human urgencies and weaknesses, following wherever our appetites lead us, whether hormonal or spiritual, cravings that we struggle to understand," the author said.

David St. John praised *Translations from the Flesh* as "without question Glaser's finest and most powerful work yet . . . a stunning journal of passage from adolescent audacity to mature reflection."

"Was it Patsy Cline who said her voice was trouble and honey? The same is true of Elton Glaser, whose new book is further testimony that the restless imagination and keen wit spring from and return to love," stated R. T. Smith. "Master of vernacular surprises and erudite on everything from Propertius to pop culture, Glaser offers 'the uncontrollable truth' throughout this splendid collection."

Glaser is the author of several other poetry volumes: *Relics, Tropical Depressions, Color Photographs of the Ruins, Winter Amnesties, Pelican Tracks, Here and Hereafter,* and *The Law of Falling Bodies.* The latter has just been published by the University of Arkansas Press as winner of the Miller Williams Arkansas Poetry Prize—so Glaser will have *two* new poetry collections out this year.

Among Glaser's other awards are two fellowships from the NEA, seven fellowships from the Ohio Arts Council, the Iowa Poetry Prize, and the 1996 Ohioana Poetry Award. He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Akron, former director of University of Akron Press, and former editor of the Akron Series in Poetry.