

Poet and prose writer SHANN RAY teaches leadership and forgiveness studies at Gonzaga University, poetry at Stanford, and poetry at Princeton Theological Seminary for the Center for Contemplative Leadership. A National Endowment for the Arts Fellow, through his research in forgiveness and genocide he has served as a visiting scholar in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, and as a poetry mentor for the PEN America Prison and Justice Writers Program. Having collaborated with painter Makoto Fujimura on a United Nations grant entitled *Intercultural Dialogues through Beauty as a Language of Peace*, Ray's work has also received the American Book Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in the context of America's diverse literary community. Bread Loaf Fellow, three-time High Plains Book Award winner, Bakeless Prize winner, and winner of the Foreword Book of the Year Readers' Choice Award, he is the author of a libretto and 15 books, of which 10 are poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction including *Atomic Theory 7*, *The Garment of Praise*, *Forgiveness and Power in the Age of Atrocity*, *Balefire*, *American Masculine*, *Sweetclover*, *Blood Fire Vapor Smoke*, *American Copper*, *The Souls of Others*, and *Transparent in the Backlight*. His work has been featured in Poetry, Esquire, Narrative, McSweeney's, Prairie Schooner, Poetry International, Big Sky Journal, the American Journal of Poetry, and Salon.