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PEN Literary Award-Winner Floyd Skloot Releases His First Collection in Four Years LSU Press to publish Far West in October

PRAISE FOR FLOYD SKLOOT

Named One of Fifty of the "Most Inspiring Authors in the World" by Poets & Writers

"A poet of singular skill and subtle intelligence."—*Harvard Review*

"Skloot's craft is nothing short of masterful."-North American Review

Baton Rouge—Floyd Skloot's *Far West* intertwines the past and present, as time alternates between racing and standing still. Crafting poems that confront memory lapses and painful recollections, Skloot traces his moments of purest perception and expression: his wife practicing music, his daughter finding delight in the presence of wildlife, Vladimir Nabokov able to lose himself when playing goalie in a soccer match. A poem about a forgotten word or name can lead to one about a song that refuses to stop playing over and over in our minds, or to an evocation of a long-dead futuristic novelist who comes back from the afterlife to find a world even stranger than any he imagined. In poems that range from traditional forms and short lyrics to longer narratives and free verse, Skloot explores how emotional experiences—memory and forgetting, love and loss, reverie and urgent attention—all come together in our search for coherence and authentic self-expression.

Floyd Skloot is the author of eight previous poetry collections, including *The End of Dreams*, a finalist for the Paterson Poetry Prize, *The Snow's Music*, and *Approaching Winter*. He has won three Pushcart Prizes and the PEN USA Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction. He lives in Oregon.

Winner of the 2019 L. E. Phillabaum Poetry Award

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To request review copies or set up an interview with the authors, please contact LB Kovac at <u>kovac1@lsu.edu</u>.

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