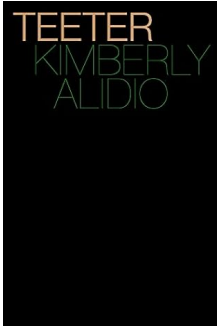


## Kent's Reviews &gt; Teeter



Want to Read

Rate this book

**Teeter (Nightboat Books)**

by Kimberly Alidio



Kent's review

May 15, 2024

[Share on Facebook](#)

bookshelves: [antinarrative](#), [deep-subjective](#), [docupoetics](#), [epistemology](#), [hybridgenre](#), [identitypoetics](#), [asian-american](#), [newlyric](#), [lgbtq](#), [poeticsofbody](#), [poeticsoftemporality](#), [poeticstructure](#), [rhetorical-reading](#), [worldasconstruct](#)

Read 2 times. Last read May 15, 2024.

What is the world but a chaos. What is writing but an attempt to mark a center to that chaos. Or what is writing but an acquiescence to centering, and Alidio is going to expose this ongoing mistruth. Or is it possible to expose it? Does any writing, even writing that wants to evade a center, or critique the center by removing it, actually keep orbiting around a center, or trending towards a center? Isn't an alternative center still a center? In Alidio, that tension between rejecting the center and realizing it, sometimes even following with the acquiescence to it, that tension is the engine for her book. Especially with the series of poems titled "Autohistoriography of Arrival at a River." History can be poetry can be chronicle can be expose can be everything you want writing to be, to do, to acknowledge. All of these operating in synthesis and productive paradox.

Alidio's book is dense and theoretical. It is intimate and personable. Like there is a way Alidio makes clear her book's intention to unsettle conventions that exist around the poetic speaker. And then as the poet accepts that these conventions deserve to be unsettled, the poems find a personal angle that complicates this theoretical space. To blur the depersonalized with the intimately personal. To devise a self positioned around the poet who can pretend to an order, even as her theory theory wills any order as an artificial construct. Oh, delicious paradox. Wisteria in spring. So much fragrance coming out of this tangle of vines. So many directions tangling everywhere.

But how does a poem or a book of poems express non order, when the poems must be put in an order. And poems aware that even ending a poem is a statement on order, because chaos is a continuousness without end. A poem expressing the world's chaos would be "A sentence never want[ing] to end." The majority of Alidio's theory might be in the book's final section, but even from the opening and its sound work, there is a commentary on poems and their speaking centers centered on something that wasn't all self, or the presumption that a writing subject would need to be self. The opening is like an ode to documenting the sounds generated while living in the world. Almost like if people were songbirds, making sounds the poet considers

Sign up

My Books

Browse ▾

Community ▾

between-ness of translation. How loud the voice seems sometimes. Like that was just one more way to immerse into the work.

Like · flag

Sign into Goodreads to see if any of your friends have read *Teeter*.

Sign In »

READING PROGRESS

- Finished Reading
- Started Reading
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [antinarrative](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [deep-subjective](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [docupoetics](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [epistemology](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [hybridgenre](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [identitypoetics](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [asian-american](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [newlyric](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [lgbtq](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [poeticsofbody](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [poeticsoftemporality](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [poeticstructure](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [rhetorical-reading](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Shelved as: [worldasconstruct](#)
- May 15, 2024 - Finished Reading

COMMENTS

Post a comment »

No comments have been added yet.

[post a comment »](#)

COMPANY

- [About us](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Terms](#)
- [Privacy](#)
- [Interest Based Ads](#)
- [Ad Preferences](#)
- [Help](#)

WORK WITH US



© 2024 Goodreads, Inc.  
Mobile version