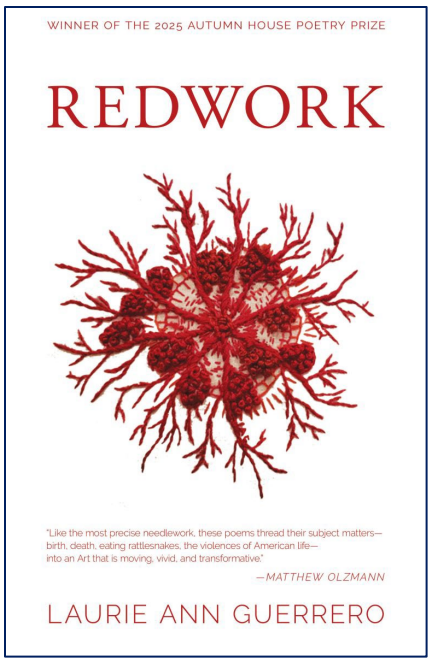


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**PRESS CONTACT**
Christine Stroud
cstroud@autumnhouse.org

**DISTRIBUTOR**
Consortium Distribution
34 Thirteenth Avenue NE
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# *REDWORK* by Laurie Ann Guerrero

**Winner of the 2025 AHP Poetry Prize, selected by Matthew Olzmann**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

**Laurie Ann Guerrero's expansive fifth poetry collection is a meditation on a woman's role in work and family, ancestral wisdom, and the subversive nature of female art.**

Interwoven with images of the author's intricate redwork embroidery—striking red thread on light textiles—these poems explore reproductive justice, violence, gender dynamics, internalized sexism, and mothers and mothering, bound by the belief that "the red thread ties me, like a vein, to all my mothers." From a paradigm-shifting slap at a Brownies troop meeting to eating a rattlesnake to a great-grandmother rising from her coffin, Guerrero's precise, visceral voice threads the imagery of embroidery through unexpected forms.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Laurie Ann Guerrero** was born and raised in the Southside of San Antonio. Poet Laureate of San Antonio (2014-16) and Texas (2016-2017), her collections include *Babies under the Skin* (Panhandler, 2008), *A Tongue in the Mouth of the Dying* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2013), *A Crown for Gumecindo*—a collaboration with visual artist, Maceo Montoya (Aztlan Libre Press, 2015), and *I Have Eaten the Rattlesnake: New & Selected Poems* (TCU Press, 2021). Guerrero holds degrees from Smith College and Drew University. She is an Associate Professor and the Writer-in-Residence at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

## ADVANCE PRAISE

"Guerrero has long been one of the best pure lyric poets of her generation, but here the prose poems, list poems, and hybrid pieces reveal another side of Guerrero as a processual poet." **—Urayoán Noel, The Latinx Project**

"Laurie Ann Guerrero's *REDWORK* is a book that's simultaneously lyrical, tactile, visual, and inhabited by a voice that's razor-sharp and finely honed." **—Matthew Olzmann, author of *Constellation Route***

*"*. . . the vibrant language of [Guerrero's] poems strengthens our resolve toward healing, and for learning to accept our weary, tattered hearts." **—Rigoberto González, author of *The Book of Ruin***

"'Red of shock, and the red of love . . .' writes Laurie Ann Guerrero, inviting the reader into the interior world of reproduction through verse and embroidery, but also the process." **—Ana Castillo, author of *My Book of the Dead***