

I pick up Lauren Camp's extraordinary collection, *Is Is Enough* (Texas Review Press 2026) every single day—and find new jolts of awareness every time.

The book is “about” her father's Alzheimer's and death, but really about existence itself, how our particular form of existence has a lifespan, then, in a burst of change toward the end of our lives, somehow, inexplicably, leaving all our relationships dangling, ends. It's “about” the bond between father and daughter, but also about the gaps and failures within that bond—even as the bond strengthens and morphs before loss. It's “about” whether we can ever really say who we “are,” and whether our memories define that “is-ness” or perhaps there's something in us that can transcend the doings of each person's one life. Somehow it's about the moment and about everything that transcends the moment, at the same time.

Among many other strengths, I'm thrilled by the way Camp moves from short to long poems and back again, knowing each time what the demands of that exact poem are, and how to bring the poem to its full fruition, whether it's a two-line poem or a seven-pager.

For anyone who has loved someone who is aging, for anyone who ages, for anyone old enough to have a brain bursting with memories: this is the book.

You really, really, really need this book.

—Nancy White, Co-Editor in Chief, [The Word Works](#)