

Erin Hoover

she/her | erinhooverpoet.com | Twitter: [@erinhoover](https://twitter.com/erinhoover) | Instagram: [@theerinhoover](https://www.instagram.com/theerinhoover)

Basic information

Author (poet) and university professor
Nashville, Tennessee area, U.S.



Erin Hoover was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She is the author of two poetry collections: *Barnburner* (Elixir, 2018), which won the Antivenom Poetry Award and a Florida Book Award, and *No Spare People* (Black Lawrence, 2023). Her poems have appeared in *The Best American Poetry* and in journals such as *Cincinnati Review*, *Poetry Northwest*, *Shenandoah*, and *The Sun*. Hoover lives in Tennessee and teaches creative writing at Tennessee Tech University. She curates and hosts a poetry reading series, **Sawmill Poetry**, and produces the “**Not Abandon, but Abide**” monthly interview series for the *Southern Review of Books*. Visit her website at erinhooverpoet.com.

Expertise

Poetry
Hybrid Forms
Narrative
Writing Motherhood
The American South
Intersectional Feminism
Creative Writing Pedagogy
Author Publicity

Awards

Residency, SAFTA/Firefly Farms, 2023
Fellowship, Hendrix-Murphy Foundation, 2019-2021
Residency, Hambidge Center, 2019
Residency, Kimmel Harding Nelson Center, 2019
Medalist, Florida Book Awards, 2018
Antivenom Award, Elixir Press, 2017
Selection, *The Best American Poetry*, 2016
Residency, Vermont Studio Center, 2015
Selection, *Best New Poets*, 2013

Clips

[The Drum podcast](#)
[Enjoy Your Life! podcast](#)
[Largehearted Boy “Book Notes”](#)
[The Sentinel-Record](#)
[Tallahassee Democrat](#)
[Tallahassee Magazine](#)

Recent poems online

[Praying inside the emergency](#) | [Three weeks](#) | [Retail requiem](#) | [The hedge fund manager's first wife](#) | [To be a mother in this economy](#) | [The nineties](#) | [The power of passive voice](#) | [What use are you?](#) | [Homewrecker](#) | [Proof of impossibility](#) | [On the metaphor, for women, of birthing to creative activity](#) | [At the child support office](#) | [Baby care instructions](#)

Appearances

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference | Florida State University | Hendrix College | Literary Arts (Portland, Oregon) | New Orleans Poetry Festival | Northwest Academy (Portland, Oregon) | Poetry at the Dali (St. Petersburg, Florida) | Portland State University | Six Bridges Book Festival | Southern Festival of Books | University of Oregon | University of Southern Missouri | Word of South (Tallahassee, Florida)

Reviews

“Hoover exhumes the skeletons buried neatly behind the white picket fences of modern America in a debut that is rife with outspoken disillusionment. ... [This] candid portrait of normalized cruelty is likely to get readers to question their own malignant perceptions and passivity in the face of injustice.” – *Publishers Weekly* [[full review](#)]

“Hoover’s debut poetry collection is a fitting attempt to kick down staid, prim, even academic poetic doors.” – *Booklist* [[full review](#)]

“What is immediately unique about Erin Hoover’s *Barnburner*—a poetry collection that is also, comfortably, a collection of essays, or short stories in free verse—is that the narrators in Hoover’s poems are deeply culpable. ... Hoover plays the part of both nuisance and destroyer with equal nuance, privileging neither, weighing judgment on both. ‘The wheel stops for us,’ she says in ‘The Valkyrie,’ the collection’s closing poem. There is little doubt who ‘us’ refers to. In Hoover’s poems, we’re all lashed to the same wheel.” – *Entropy* [not online]

“These poems are witness to our raging, hopeless quest for this kind of order: the men who destroy the nuisance of women who want equality; the powerful who destroy the nuisance of the poor who want justice; the capitalism that destroys the nuisance of our irrevocable need for the earth—and in the most guttural irony, the lost who seek peace and understanding in this mess, and in the process destroy themselves.” – *EcoTheo* [[full review](#)]

Interviews

[Adroit Journal](#)
[The Rumpus](#)
[Arkana](#)

Many more reviews and interviews are linked from my [author website](#).