



## Decompositions (Paperback)

By Ken Belford

Talon Books, Canada, Canada, 2010. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. If language is an index of belonging, then Decompositions is the writing of an exile, a tribe of one. For much of his life, Ken Belford has lived in the north, in the pristine region of the headwaters of the Nass River. His careful (de)compositions disclose the land as a complex living organism, articulate the names of it, see the whole of it. Yet the landscape of these poems is not a matter of latitude and longitude, but that unroaded place which begins at the edge of the rancher's field, wherever that boundary is, and looks back at civilization with a vision and a voice that is unique and new. These poems catch their readers up in a surprising social engagement that is at once larger and other than the consumer discourse of trade and ownership. The construction of the lyric in contemporary poetry is most often grounded in a gaze from shelter, out onto a common field that is captured, and thus appropriated--an aboutism or constructed estrangement of the other that is challenged by these decompositions of that sheltered and privileged I. For Belford, poetry...



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