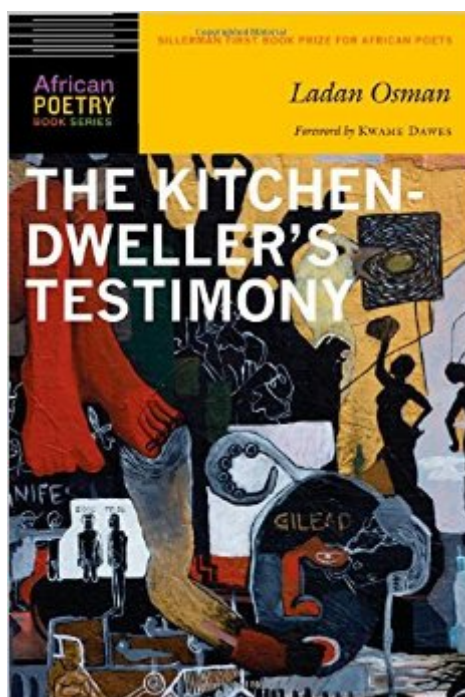


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# The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony (African Poetry Book)



## Synopsis

Winner of the Sillerman First Book Prize for African Poets, *The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony* asks: Whose testimony is valid? Whose testimony is worth recording? Osman's speakers, who are almost always women, assert and reassert in an attempt to establish authority, often through persistent questioning. Specters of race, displacement, and colonialism are often present in her work, providing momentum for speakers to reach beyond their primary, apparent dimensions and better communicate. *The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony* is about love and longing, divorce, distilled desire, and all the ways we injure ourselves and one another.

## Book Information

Series: African Poetry Book

Paperback: 108 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press (April 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803266863

ISBN-13: 978-0803266865

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,005,455 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > African](#) #743 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Women Authors](#) #4746 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States](#)

## Customer Reviews

This first published book of poetry is a winner. Osman spins from revolting against harmful African rituals; to diatribes against relationships in name only; to deeply moving poems about race, displacement and colonialism; and does it all with a firm hand and a strong heart. Revelations abound in this thin volume; Osman is a master of language and pulls no punches "when she wants to punch, she hits hard. I couldn't put this work down, and was sorry when I reached the end.

What a gift Ladan Osman has given us with her debut collection *The Kitchen Dweller's Testimony*. Ladan is both of and above this earth: her poems float above us as they make observations about the situations and life she lays out, as well as deal with the very tangible reality

of living on this earth as a woman of color and immigrant. Her work is inquisitive, gently exploring the world around her. Her language is also full of play, teasing, joyful, blending both the divine and the secular. This is a wonderful read, one that I would encourage all readers to explore.

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