

# Press Release

For Release: Immediately Contact: Raymond Hammond, Editor; 917.843.8825; rhammond@nyq.org  
 Publication Information: 6 x 9 in.; 108 Pages LCCN: 2019947590 ISBN: 978-1-63045-060-1  
 Publication Date: September 28, 2019 Website: <http://books.nyq.org/author/alisonstone>  
 Suggested Retail: 15.95 USD; 21.95 CAN; 15.95 GBR; 15.95 EUR; 24.95 AUS  
 Availability: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Powell's, Small Press Dist. To the Trade: Ingram Distribution, SPD

## NYQ Books™ Announces the Publication of *Caught in the Myth* by Alison Stone



September 28, 2019 - Beacon, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the publication of *Caught in the Myth* by Alison Stone. Stone's sixth collection deals with the myths, both classic and contemporary, that shape our psyches and our world. From Caligula and Medusa to Gabby Douglas and Ivanka Trump, these speakers illuminate the timeless struggles for power and love that play a central role in literature and art. Stone's speakers tell their stories in poems that both transcend culture and time and illuminate this particular historical moment.

"The first poem in *Caught in the Myth* begins 'Every story starts in the body,' and indeed this collection embodies and voices classical, religious, and historical figures, fairy tale characters, and contemporary icons alike, from Medusa to Ivanka Trump, from Pandora to the prom queen, from

Homer and Hadrian to Reeva Steenkamp. Stone imagines her way in and brings nuance and intimacy to her speakers. 'If my life can be no more / than surface, / let each surface shine,' her Midas vows. Medusa tells us 'Evil has its own loveliness,' a wounded Amazon that 'A woman is more than her injuries.' In other poems, Stone writes at the border between myth and apparent autobiography, as in a poem on Sisyphus, whose 'pointless pushing' is compared to her mother, who 'offered her body / to the surgeon's knife, made her chest / a port for the delivery of drugs,' all for 'a chance at six more months.' Each poem, in its way, releases a living voice from stone."

—Diane Seuss, *Author of Four-Legged Girl and Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl*

"Alison Stone's *Caught in the Myth* provides a sharp rejoinder to the misogyny that has shaped western culture from the Hellenic world to the Trump era. As Stone herself notes in opening lines of this collection, 'Every story starts / in the body.' Stone's deftly-constructed poems anatomize narratives that begin in the female body, in the body politic, in the sculpted bodies of gods, goddesses, and emperors, and in the body of discourses that have been braided into our official and unofficial histories. In these pages, Ivanka Trump squares off against Pandora, while Olympian Gabby Douglas vaults over a re-envisioned Medusa. *Caught in the Myth* owes a profound debt to Anne Sexton's *Transformations*; like Sexton, Alison Stone knows how to transubstantiate the psychic pain of cultural conflict, personal struggle, and political injustice into the bread of poetry."

—Dante Di Stefano, author of *Ill Angels*

Alison Stone has published six full-length collections and three chapbooks. Her poems have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *New York Quarterly*, *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *Barrow Street*, *Poet Lore*, and many other journals and anthologies. She has been awarded *Poetry* magazine's Frederick Bock Prize and *New York Quarterly* magazine's Madeline Sadin Award. She is also a painter and the creator of The Stone Tarot. A licensed psychotherapist, she has private practices in NYC and Nyack.



NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the *New York Quarterly* poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.