



Inverse Sky

By John Isles, Mark Levine, Ben Doller

University of Iowa Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Inverse Sky, John Isles, Mark Levine, Ben Doller, Part Baudelairian flaneur, an Arcadian shepherd, the speaker in John Isles' brave new "Inverse Sky" encounters a fragmented history. It is nineteenth-century California, and the missions are still burning after the Americans establish the Bear Flag Republic; it is the twenty-first century, and the miners of '49 are relegated to a mural in an arcade. Both a loner and a lover, Isles' pilgrim-poet takes us on a journey where Native Americans are 'missing persons' outside a diorama of their ancestors, then sets us adrift in settings ranging from film noir to the clear-cut hills of modern-day California landscapes, under siege but not defeated. "Inverse Sky" evokes the paradigm of a shocked and disbelieving child dealing with a broken promise, yet the poems carry within themselves the knowledge that promises will be kept. The only response to broken promises is 'to come undone / to come and go in a single breath.' But this is a beginning as well as an end. Each poem becomes a new world - for if there is anything on earth worth loving, it is something made with the...



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