



“Touches of the sardonic brighten these elegant and serious poems. The imagery is always appropriate to the subject, in many instances breathtakingly beautiful. In contrast to much of our secular literary world, Julian Long is a religious poet, at ease in his belief.”

—Richard Sale

“These poems exhibit conviction, economy, and a gentle authenticity. And, thank God, a sense of humor! Above all else, they are a testament to the poet’s ear for language and his eye for detail. Lines I read more than thirty years ago, returned warm and rich when I happened upon them anew, and I delighted again in their energy, verve, and wisdom.”

—Stephen E. Smith

“Julian Long's poetry is memoir and song, with chances for you to write your own stories. A series of memories shapes this volume, especially the snippet-flashes that recall the death of the poet's father in World War II. Long's memoir bulges with elegies as he hums old gospel tunes and sings out clearly in lyrics that light up the darkness of ‘the one beginning.’”

—Shelby Stephenson, Poet Laureate of North Carolina

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Reading Evening Prayer in an Empty Church

Julian O. Long

