



Paul Mitchell:
*Dodging the
Bull* (Wakefield
Press, ISBN
9781862547490,
\$22.95)

Paul Mitchell has also released his first collection of short stories, *Dodging the Bull*, many of which have also previously been published in journals and anthologies. This collection is masculine, rugged, sensitive and strong. Mitchell's style is astonishingly authoritative, and he shows flashes of genius as he tries to articulate the almost inexpressible on behalf of characters whose voices, for whatever reason, we don't often hear. Some of the pieces don't fulfil their potential; once the scene is set, Mitchell doesn't fully explore the emotion he goes most of the way towards introducing. Like Charles Bukowski, and more recently Geoff Goodfellow, there is deep emotion here – pent-up and urgent. Mitchell is a prolific poet and short story writer and

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I have been familiar with his work for a while now, and fortunate enough to publish some of his stories. Every new story by Mitchell is better than his last; suffice to say, I eagerly await more.

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