

V.B. PRICE

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Born in 1940, V.B. Price is a poet, award winning reporter and author, a human rights and environmental columnist, editor, publisher, novelist and a long time university teacher in New Mexico where he's lived since 1958. Price's vision of New Mexico is of an enlightened and empowering place of irreplaceable natural beauty, diversity and cultural magnificence. As a poet, Price's selected poems over 40 years entitled "Broken and Reset" include poem suites that make up the book "Chaco Trilogy," a collaboration with photographer Kirk Gittings. The selected works also include Price's version of the ancient Homeric Hymns called "Myth Waking," and his take on the "Seven Deadly Sins." Price began publishing poetry in 1962 and continues to work every day as a poet. As an author, Price's environmental history of New Mexico since the Manhattan Project entitled "The Orphaned Land" chronicles the state's tragic history of pollution over the last seventy years. His "Albuquerque: A City At the End of the World" looks at the Duke City as a representative mid-sized American city struggling, often successfully, to distinguish itself as an authentic southwestern metropolis competing with homogenous megacities for water and business. His books, co-edited with Baker Morrow, on "Anasazi Architecture and American Design" and on pre-Puebloan horticulture called "Canyon Gardens" see our natural and built environments as unique examples of aesthetic mastery and survivability.

Price has been a teacher in the UNM Honors Program and College since 1986 and has taught periodically in the UNM School of Architecture and Planning since 1976. His teaching focus has been on poetry, urban issues, Greek and Roman Classics, the U.S. Constitution, and the environment. His teaching philosophy works to help strengthen the ordinary genius of everyone when they pursue with intensity their true interests. As an editor, Price has brought into print the works of more than 800 New Mexicans in periodicals such as Century Magazine, New Mexico Magazine, and the on-line New Mexico Mercury. He was series editor of UNM Press's Mary Burritt Christiansen poetry series which published some 26 individual books of poetry. He co-edited a collection of New Mexico Poetry from 1960 to the 2004's entitled "In Company" which included the work of more than 85 poets. Price has been a weekly columnist writing about politics, culture, and the environment for 45 years in the New Mexico Independent (print), Century Magazine, The Albuquerque Tribune, New Mexico Independent (on-line) and New Mexico Mercury. His historical novel "The Oddity" was set in 1940s New Mexico and in the Rodney King riots in Los Angeles and focuses on the perils of eccentricity in dangerous times. Price received an Honorary Degree, Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.) from the University of New Mexico in 2016. Price has been married to the artist Rini Price since 1969. They have two sons, Jody and Keir, and two grandchildren Ryan and Talia.