SOLAR CALENDAR
AND OTHER WAYS OF MARKING TIME
JEREMY BENDIK-KEYMER

Imagine the kind of philosophy book you might have wished for when you were growing up. Seeking a reader who would live with her own questions and walk around town with her thoughts, this book would not have a single thesis but would work through multiple problems and be an experience, born out of life-experience. Solar Calendar contains a family portrait, a parody-essay, a time-capsule poem, an exploded essay, a poetic record of an act, and an aphorism journal for a year. They protest that philosophy is a daily practice of thoughtful relationships and turn the book into the texture of a person.

This “book of becoming” weaves together poetry, photo album, exploded essay (including tears and scotch tape), philosophical commentary, memoir, and aphoristic journal. The breathtaking result is a philosophical askesis for our time: polyphonic, democratic, practical, and urgent.
—Lynne Huffer, author of Mad for Foucault

It is rare to come across a book that does what it says.
—Shannon Lee Dawdy, author of Patina: a Profane Archeology

How to be philosophical, how to be good and ethical and interconnected. How to be responsible, how to be free. Solar Calendar is a truly holistic work suffused with intelligence, honesty, beauty, and care.
—Alex Shakar, author of Luminarium

Solar Calendar opens up temporal vortices through which we can consider the contrasting frames of human, geological, and even cosmic time. I have never read anything like it. Though the scope of its concerns is vast, it is a work equally fitted to the scale of a human reader.
—John Levi Barnard, Department of English, College of Wooster

The philosophy is not a wooden game of chess.
—Elaine Hullihen, conceptual, performance, and body artist