

ACT CUTE

by **Andrew Sutherland**

‘Sutherland alchemises the body personal into political, revealing the blurred lines of play and power, desire and distance, meet-cutes and lonely aesthetics, exquisite contradictions we carry.’ *Sara M. Saleh*

‘There is no one who writes about “B” grade culture as seriously and wonder-full-y as Andrew Sutherland.’
Caitlin Maling

ABOUT THE BOOK

In *Act Cute*, the poet addresses the gap between nostalgia and the wavering present, and asks how to perform a coherent self amidst personal, political, institutional, and canonical entanglements. *Act Cute* queers the experience of actor training and the decade of theatre practice since to ask ‘what can an actor do, against all this overlapping time?’

Shifting between autofictive address and the personae of an unstable performance canon, *Act Cute* adopts the structural codes of romantic drama to frame the poet-as-actor through five sections: ‘Audition Sides’, ‘you stop me at the airport and tell me that you love me’, ‘twink death in Europa!!’, ‘Wedding Scenes’, and ‘forgiveness’.

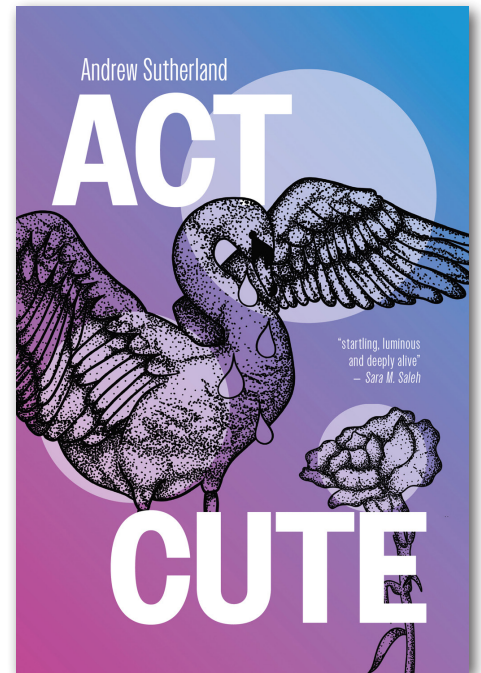
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Sutherland (he/they) is an award-winning Queer Poz (PLHIV) writer and performance-maker. Andrew’s work draws upon the viral instabilities of identity, pop culture and the autofictional self.



NOTES

- Sutherland is undertaking a PhD in performance studies at VCA, Melbourne/Naarm.
- Andrew Sutherland’s poetry, fiction and non-fiction can be found in national and international literary journals and anthologies.
- This is the second collection from the award-winning Queer Poz (PLHIV) writer and performance-maker whose previous work, *Paradise (point of transmission)*, was critically acclaimed. The collection was shortlisted for the Small Press Network Book of the Year prize.



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