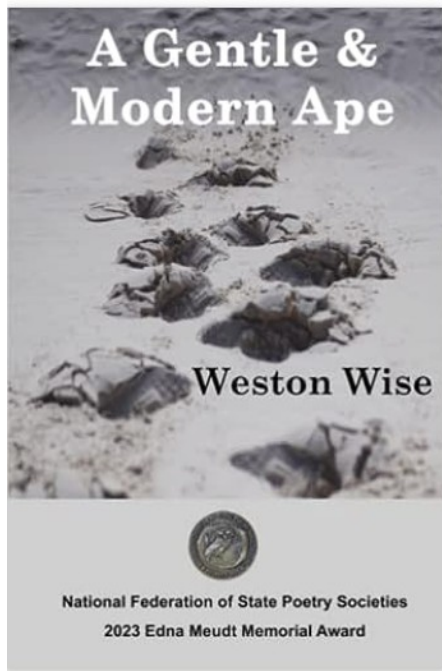


## 2023 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition Winners

### 2023 Edna Meudt Memorial Award

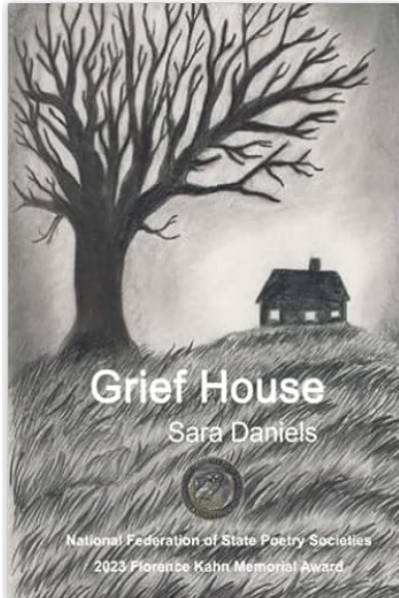
*A Gentle & Modern Ape*  
by Weston Wise



"I couldn't stop returning to the distinct voice and incredible language of *A Gentle & Modern Ape*. Navigating the mental maps of Americans who don't have space for Kenyans, the speaker moves between laughter and rue in a sharp, dizzying manner, as in the assertion that his passport is 'fake' because "'Kenya' isn't a real country.' A line breaks with wordplay; a dialogue swerves around catachresis: If there is technique, this poet wields it! 'Banana Poem' took my breath away with its sparkling subversion of stereotypes. I am amazed by the enjambment, and something like Frank O'Hara's wit meeting Shailja Patel's lyric in the margins." – Alina Stefanescu, author of *Dor* and *Stories to Read Aloud to Your Fetus*

## 2023 Florence Kahn Memorial Award

### *Grief House* by Sara Daniels



"*Grief House* immersed me in the world created by the poet's specular attention to detail. From the noise of television blurring the background to the dialogue between broken glass and a dog in the park, everything conspires to speak, and each noun is lit by this potential. 'The catechisms, the crushes, the jealousies' buried in a dead mother's diary, the daughter casting herself as Catherine the Great only to discover 'a girl dressed in ghosthood' . . . the skill with which this poet carves a tangible elegy, and then leaves us with a resonant image: 'in the foreground: only a woman and a knife.'" – Alina Stefanescu, author of *Dor* and *Stories to Read Aloud to Your Fetus*