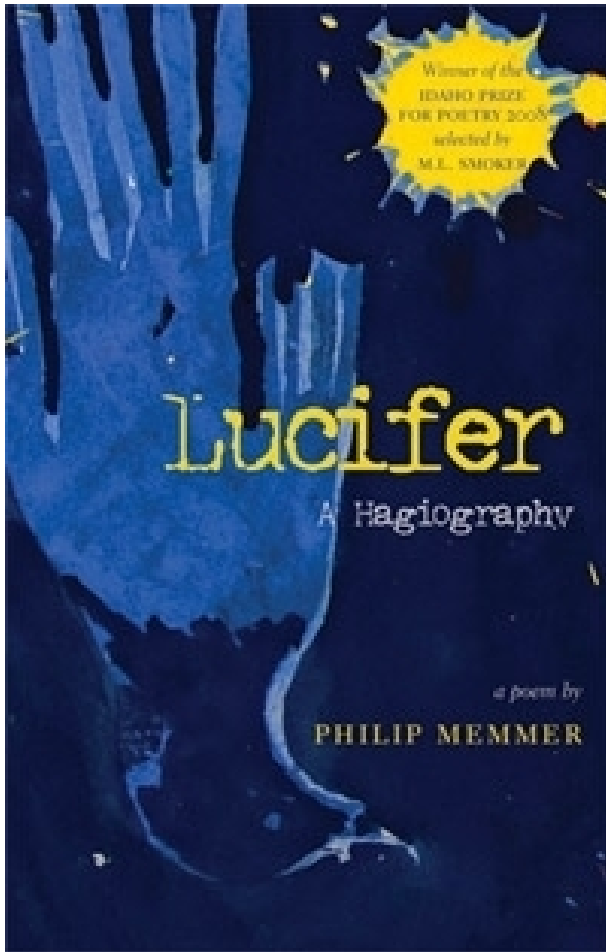


# Lucifer: A Hagiography



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With unflagging inventiveness and mordant wit, Philip Memmer's *Lucifer: A Hagiography* explores the not-inconsiderable span of time between just before Creation and the End of Days, as experienced by God the Father's other son. The cosmos that Memmer creates is both singularly strange and strangely familiar, and the character of Lucifer, a kind of existential hero for all time, instructs and delights us equally. "Lucifer" is on a non-linear trajectory, revolving its readers through the profane and the pious swinging door of heaven and earth. Memmer's collection, with a few pitches and an unexpected saint we can all root for, has the power to provoke, enlighten and unsettle. The paradox remains the same-so much is at stake in these poems, and so little-but Memmer has managed to give us an original and remarkable passageway.