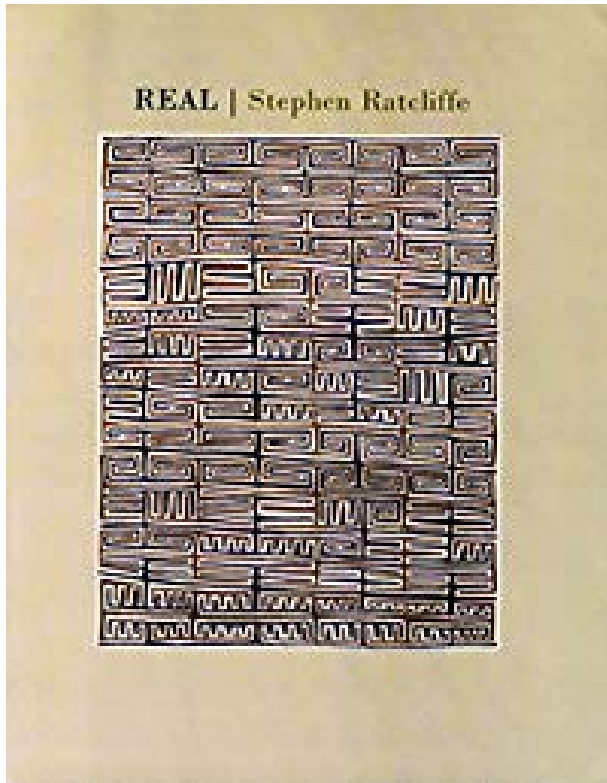


Real



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Author:	Stephen Ratcliffe
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[Real.pdf](#)

[Real.epub](#)

Poetry. REAL, a long poem composed of 474 "frames" written in 474 consecutive days, continues the project Ratcliffe began in *Portraits & Repetition* (The Post-Apollo Press, 2002): to write down/"transcribe" perception of "real things" in the world as directly as possible, as they happen, before "conceptualization/ takes over." Attuned both to the presence and all-too-soon disappearance of "things" as such ("physicist noting/the pulse of light left the chamber before it even entered"), each 17-line page "frames and supports," as Juliana Spahr writes, "the poem's celebration of intimacy with both the natural and human world and its quiet, patient attentiveness to how luminous it all can be to those who just sit still and notice."