

# SMALL PRESS

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*The Jester Has Lost His Jingle* David Saltzman, Jester Co. Inc., P.O. Box 817, Malaga Cove Plaza, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274, (310) 544-4733, 60 pages, hardcover, \$20.00, 0-9644563-0-3 (1995)

This is a wonderful, charming book which reaches out to child and adult with warmth and promise. A joy of life, humor and optimism permeate both the poetry and the illustrations, which seem to leap from page to page, encouraging the reader to join the quest and reap the reward. The search for lost laughter, its re-discovery within us all and its power to overcome the obstacles of life is a fable for our time.

The story behind the story is equally touching, filled with courage and passion for life; a young man faced with a fatal disease, a family supportive and determined and a talent that would not be denied. The book, written as the author struggled with Hodgkin's disease, which ultimately took his life at 23, is the work of a talented craftsman and a skilled artist who faced his life and his death with strength and serenity. This tale of the healing power of laughter, for the sick and the sad, the harassed and the hopeless, is a legacy far greater than those left by others three times the author's age.

The determination of his parents to see the book come to life, in as fine and fitting a manner as it deserved, has been well realized in this volume. It is also an indication of just what helped make David Saltzman the very special young man he clearly was.

— Paul Frosch

