



The Decline and Fall of the Chatty Empire By John Emil Vincent

Part of the Hugh MacLennan Poetry Series (number 74 in series)
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A contemporary epic chronicling the adventures of Chatty Cathy and her band of has-been dolls.

Description

Chatty Cathy, while not the first talking doll, was certainly the most widely known, and the only one elevated to idiom. This unauthorized chronicle of her later career luridly illustrates the perils of reaching such linguistic heights with so very little to say.

In *The Decline and Fall of the Chatty Empire* Jojo, Gypsy May, Marge, Tootles, and Cathy's entire gang undertake an abject odyssey to celebrity. On their adventure, they have many picnics, listen to NPR inattentively, play charades, and discover sharp things hidden in love's thick folds. They end where they began, unutterably broken and luminous.

Returning to the snarfs and loving exasperation of his first book, *Excitement Tax*, John Emil Vincent swipes left and right like no one else writing today. Because why would they?

Review Quote

"The Decline and Fall of the Chatty Empire is a story in verse of the stuttering feeling of finding one's purpose and overcoming cultural pressures on aging women. Readers across disciplines will relate to the adventures of the contemporary that resonate throughout the book." *Montreal Review of Books*