



The Last Word

This Halloween, ditch the glowing jack-o-lantern and plastic witch hat and decorate with some good, old-fashioned creepiness. For years, East Sider Rachel Cyrene Blackman traveled around New England, taking pictures of old gravestones in historic cemeteries. The result of her efforts is *afterWords*, a haunting yet strangely pleasant set of magnetic poetry, with words taken

from the gravestones themselves.

If you prefer Nathaniel Hawthorne to Dan Brown, and stories of local lore to movies where a guy has to cut off his own foot to escape a deranged serial killer, get yourself a set. No house - haunted or otherwise - is complete without it. Available at Pleasant Surprise, Thayer Street. www.aftersword.com -Julie Threlaine