



The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry

Ilya Kaminsky (Editor) , Susan Harris (Editor)

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In this remarkable anthology, introduced and edited by Ilya Kaminsky and Susan Harris, poetic visions from the twentieth century will be reinforced and in many ways revised. Here, alongside renowned masters, are internationally celebrated poets who have rarely, if ever, been translated into English.

The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry Details

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Download and Read Free Online The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry Ilya Kaminsky (Editor) , Susan Harris (Editor)

From Reader Review The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry for online ebook

Vincent says

I'm a bit partial, as I helped with its creation (in a small way-- this is the only time my name will appear in the same book as Anna Akhmatova's), but still... it could be better. I love just about every poem in here, but do we need that much Milosz republished? It's not like he's an obscure figure.

Botton line: great intro to world poetry with a few surprises.

Sacha says

I hoped there would be more Asian content, but alas, it was mostly European - which is also good, just not as balanced as I'd hoped.

Margo Berdeshevsky says

What a generous collection. It holds most welcome place on my shelf-- I will return to it often.

Nicola says

Ja. Haan. Da. Ken. Si. Na'am. Oui. Tak. A wonderful, eclectic, refreshing collection--wonderful to slowly pour through over many months. Made me realize how amazing images and ideas must be if a poem is to be translated and still have power. I also responded to the directness of many of these voices. Though I got a little tired of anaphora, it had its efficacy too.

Steve says

So many great poems by poets I'd otherwise have been unaware of. It's a travelling book for me now. I can open it up anywhere and begin to read. Here's one by Maria Negroni I opened on just now translated from the Spanish by Anne Twitty.

The Baby

He who has nothing to hide,
has nothing to show
---Marguerite De Hainut

My baby is playing in the bath, delighted. I begin

to wash his head and spend some time at this. Then he begins. When I start to rinse his hair, I can't find him. I turn around, and there he is again. I don't understand what is happening, and grow stern. I scold him. I don't like what he's doing. The baby laughs, more and more amused, glimmers for an instant, and vanishes again. My impatience only makes things worse. he disappears more and more quickly, doesn't even give me time to protest. Through layers of uneasiness, I glimpse his mischievous glance; my blindness is his victory, my jealousy his passion. For a while, I go on resisting: I don't know how to welcome impotence. The baby just wants to play. The game is dazzling and lasts a lifetime.

metaphor says

When your thoughts
don't take you too far
and you are silent
as you tremble
and gaze
at the trellis of your hands.

When the chariot of your imagination
does not lead you into tunnels
lit up with apprehensions
and lightnings
as you remain silent
and tremble
gazing at the smoke twirling
around your wrist.

When the woman who lets
her scarf fall
through the evening's emptiness
greets you, and you don't
acknowledge
her greeting, but rather
remain silent, and tremble
as you gaze
at the destinies that unfold, lurching
in your coffee cup.

When the new immigrants pass by
arm in arm with their local women

blabbering about time that flees
so soon, and you keep silent
as you tremble and gaze
at the table's
ambiguous wood.

When you don't sit with anyone
and remember war only
as a horseshoe, or a coat
riddled with bullets.

When, upon an evening, in a cafe
the faces pass by you
like copper clouds
as you listen to cymbals that chime
in a faraway desert
or masts that break
in imaginary gulfs.

When the blind singer's
record spins, once upon an evening,
in a cafe, the customers sigh
and you walk toward the axe
where it leans against the tree.

—Amjad Nasser, from "Once Upon an Evening, in a Cafe"

Jan says

I read this in between things on my trip to china. Has some really gorgeous stuff. But I guess like a lot of anthologies some not so gorgeous stuff.

Antonio Delgado says

Arguably one of the best poetry anthologies. This anthology is a life passenger.

James Schwartz says

Always a fan of words without borders. This is an amazing anthology, highly recommended.

S. says

A large collection of poetry that presented me with old friends and new discoveries. It's a great collection, perfect for reading and revisiting and keeping finding new images, new sounds, new combinations. A very good choice for a summer companion, if you want to have a book that has a wide variety of experience to offer.

Harper Curtis says

A beautiful, international book, a book of wonders. This anthology should be required reading for anyone who enjoys the Norton Anthology.
