



The Norton Anthology of Poetry

Margaret Ferguson (Editor), Mary Jo Salter (Editor), Jon Stallworthy (Editor)

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The Fifth Edition retains the flexibility and breadth of selection that has defined this classic anthology, while improved and expanded editorial apparatus make it an even more useful teaching tool.

The Norton Anthology of Poetry Details

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Download and Read Free Online The Norton Anthology of Poetry Margaret Ferguson (Editor) , Mary Jo Salter (Editor) , Jon Stallworthy (Editor)

From Reader Review The Norton Anthology of Poetry for online ebook

Paul says

Essential

Connie says

5/5 stars

I mean, I'm not *finished* finished, but I'm done with it for my module at university and will continue to use it. Very helpful (albeit expensive).

Ela says

I may not have read it cover to cover but this is a pretty awesome and comprehensive anthology of poetry.

Velma says

Eighty bucks? Really? I need a Biblio-Fairy Godparent.

HeavyReader says

This book is huge, so I had no intention of reading it cover to cover. I just flipped through, reading a poem here, another one there. I didn't even buy this book for a class. I had some extra scholarship book money, so I bought myself a copy.

Unfortunately, my copy of this book disappeared many years ago. I think a no good roommate stole it. The funny thing is that he considered himself a Christian. I hope he still has this book and feels guilty whenever he sees it on his bookshelf. I hope he's worried about what God thinks about him stealing the book. (He tried to steal my cat too, but didn't get away with it.)

Anyway, this book is chock full of poems. It could keep a poetry lover happy for many years.

Joe Sacksteder says

In college my Great Books professor put this whole anthology on our 100 Greatest Books list. The idea of

this class is that you read as many of the 100 during the semester as you can; then you're supposed to read the remnant over the course of your life. This anthology was a real cop out on the professors' part - along with the complete works of William Shakespeare. It was setting us up for failure. I started the anthology in 2005 when I was in music composition grad school in Baton Rouge Louisiana, August 18, 2012. I read one poet a day, or up to three poems, both silently and out loud. I missed days/weeks/months, but I persevered. It is now February 23, 2012, and I read the last poet today.

And I still know nothing about what's going on in contemporary poetry.

Overall, a little heavy on the voices of the oppressed, a lot light on formal innovation. Oh, and there's this poem called "The Hollow Men"...

Walter says

At the end of the end of the 1960 film, *The Time Machine*, the hero, George Wells, returns to the future taking three books from his library with him. Viewers are left to ponder which three books he takes - it's never revealed. If it had been me, this would be one of the books.

The Norton Anthology is a part of who I am. It opened - and continues to open - doors into some of the great literary minds of our culture. A starting point from which you can go on and learn more (i.e., don't stop with this book!).

If there is any doubt about its greatness, let me show you that it contains as much of both the sacred and the profane as the Bible:

Alexander Pope:

"Know then thyself, presume not God to scan,
The proper study of mankind is Man.
Placed on this isthmus of a middle state,
A being darkly wise and rudely great:
With too much knowledge for the Sceptic side,
With too much weakness for the Stoic's pride,
He hangs between, in doubt to act or rest;
In doubt to deem himself a God or Beast;
In doubt his mind or body to prefer;
?Born but to die, and reas'ning but to err;
?Alike in ignorance, his reason such,
Whether he thinks too little or too much;
Chaos of thought and passion, all confused;
?Still by himself abused or disabused;
Created half to rise, and half to fall:
?Great lord of all things, yet a prey to all;
?Sole judge of truth, in endless error hurl'd;
The glory, jest, and riddle of the world!"

Ogden Nash:

"The cow is of the bovine ilk;
One end is moo, the other, milk."

Genius, sheer genius.

Harper Curtis says

The Norton Anthology is a rich resource, a great starting point for young readers and poets, and a great place to go to find new poets to read. That being said, it really is just a starting point. Moreover, it is limited to poetry written originally in English. You will want to supplement with international anthologies, consider The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry, for example.

Daniel Wright says

More than four months in the reading. Worth every day.

Kate O'Hanlon says

I'm marking as read although I didn't make it through even half of the poems while it formed the backbone of my reading list through college. Outrageously expensive (for an 18 year old student anyway) I borrowed a copy from a guy who had just graduated and gave it to his little brother who was starting college the year I finished up. My flatmate has a copy though, and I'm glad to have it around again for reference.

Brian says

What can I say - I love poetry

Nessya says

Brilliant amalgamation of so many different poets!

Quintin Zimmermann says

An anthology of endless delights and a celebration of the beauty of the English language.

Lauren says

Covers the history and evolution of poetry in English, however I'd suggest the Norton Anthology of Post-Modern American Poetry as a supplement since this book really doesn't cover many of the influential poets writing today. However, English majors or anyone interested in poetry should have a copy of this book in their library.

Alan says

I am more familiar with earlier editions, and while Margy Ferguson* is an excellent and perceptive scholar-editor, she cannot repel the publisher's usual bowing to sell books. My riveting memory of such an event was in a freshman literature anthology, ground-breaking in its day. It included Tom Thumb, had an entire section of songs and the prosody of songs, and many other things, which because they were unique, I tended to teach.

Next edition, they were all cut. And I dumped the anthology. Evidently, all the freshman lit-comp teachers in the country were pretty used to doing what they did, could not use the wonderful innovations. You'd think frosh comp would be generally staffed by the younger and more flexible teachers, but perhaps when you include all the adjunct and experienced teachers who missed tenure, you have a group of fairly careful people unwilling to take risks.

Well, if that was the way it was fifteen years ago, think how that will be reinforced by the scrutiny of the classroom by those who think of it as a factory. Or by those who know nothing of teaching, like the US Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, who only taught for two years--gym. Your production line's doing WHAT? Song prosody? Where will the standardized test examine that?

*M Ferguson joined my SAA seminar on Shakespeare and Oral Culture in Seattle, and is a supporter of my latest, *Parodies Lost*, on Tom Weiskel, Harold Bloom's favorite young colleague at Yale in the early 70's. MF also knew Tom at Yale; and H Bloom wrote me, "I think of Tom every day. I still grieve him."
