



Poetry Starter Kit

Anthologies & Recommendations

Are you interested in checking out some poetry but don't know where to start? A great way to find out about a variety of poets is through anthologies.

What's an anthology? It can be organized in lots of different ways, but at its core, an anthology is a big collection of poems from different poets. Whether it's poems from a specific part of the world, period in history, or style, here at Beloit Public Library, we have a great selection of anthologies.

Below is a list highlighting some of them, as well as several books from classic and contemporary poets. Keep in mind this is only a small sample of the great poets out there! Sadly, it would be impossible to include everyone.

If you are looking for something/someone specific that you don't see here or need help tracking down anything poetry related feel free to reach out to me at pkopp@beloitlibrary.org.

All items on this list available for checkout at Beloit Public Library.

Historical Periods & Movements

American Indian Poetry: An Anthology of Songs and Chants
897AM35C

American Poetry The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries
811.52 AMERICAN

American Poetry The Twentieth Century Volume One and Two
811.508 AM35 V.1/V.2

From Totems to Hip-Hop
811.5408 F925

Nepantla: An Anthology for Queer Poets of Color ed. by Christopher Soto
811.6 NEPANTLA

Rebel Angels: 25 Poets of the New Formalism
811.5408 R241

The Breakbeat Poets Vol. 2 Black Girl Magic ed. By Jamila Woods
811.008 BLACK

The Making of a Poem: A Norton Anthology of Poetic Forms ed. By Mark Strand and Eevan Boland
821.008 M289

The Outlaw Bible of American Poetry
811.5408 008

The Poetry Anthology 1912-2002
811.508 P752

The Penguin Anthology of 20th Century American Poetry ed. By Rita Dove
811.508 PENGUIN

The Vintage Book of African American Poetry
811.54 V79

"Best of" and Topical

Catching Life by the Throat: How to Read a Poem and Why: poems from eight great poets
821.808 CATCHING

Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry - An Anthology of Contemporary Poems ed. By Billy Collins
811.6 ONE

Poetry Speaks: Hear Great Poets Read Their Work from Tennyson to Plath
811.509 P752

The Art of Losing - Poems of Grief
811.54 ART

The Poet Laureate Anthology
811.508 POETS

Word of Mouth - Poems Featured On NPR's All Things Considered
811.508 W891

In Translation

Africa

The Penguin Book of Modern African Poetry
896 PENGUIN 1998

Ancient Greece/Rome

The Poems of Catullus
874.01 CATULLUS

If Not, Winter: Fragments of Sappho Translated by Anne Carson
884.01 5A691

Greek Lyric Poetry: A New Translation
884.0108 G811

Asia

Classical Chinese Poetry: An Anthology- Translated and Edited by David Hinton
895.11 CLASSICAL

One Hundred Poems From The Japanese: Translated by Kenneth Rexroth
895.61 ON20

The Anchor Book of Chinese Poetry: From Ancient to Contemporary
895.11 AN21

The Rose of Time: New and Selected Poems by Bei Dao
895.1152 DAO

Central/Eastern Europe

Contemporary Russian Poetry: An Anthology
891.74 CONTEMPORARY

France

An Anthology of French Poetry from Nerval to Valery in English Translation
841.88 F66A

Arthur Rimbaud: Complete Works
841.8 RIMBAUD

Six French Poets of the Nineteenth-Century with Parallel French Text
841.708 SIX

The Yale Anthology of Twentieth Century French Poetry ed. by Mary Ann Caws
841.9108 YALE

Germany

Twentieth Century German Poetry
831.9108 TWENTIETH

Selected Poems and Prose of Paul Celan
831.914 C335

Rilke: New Poems
831.912 RILKE

The Essential Rilke: Selected and Translated by Galway Kinnell and Hannah Liebmann
831.912 RILKE

Italy

The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Italian Poetry ed by Geoffrey Brock
851.91 FSG

The Inferno of Dante: A Bilingual Edition Translated by Robert Pinsky
851.1 DANTE

The Poetry of Petrarch
851.1 P446P

Latin America

The Oxford Book of Latin American Poetry
861.008 OXFORD

Middle East

The Illustrated Rumi
891.5511 J215I

Spain

Frederico Garcia Lorca - Collected Poems
SPANISH 861.62 G165C

Roots and Wings 1900-1975: Poetry from Spain, a bilingual anthology
SPANISH 861.62 R679

Classic and Contemporary Collections from English Language Poets

Chen Chen - When I Grow Up I Want to be a List of Further Possibilities
811.6 CHEN

Vievee Francis - Forest Primeval
811.6 FRANCIS

Terrance Hayes - Sonnets for My Past and Future Assassin
811.54 HAYES

Ilya Kaminsky - Deaf Republic
811.6 KAMINSKY

Ada Limon - Bright Dead Things
811.6 LIMON

Layli Long Soldier - Whereas
811.6 LONG SOLDIER

Richard Siken - Crush
811.6 SIKEN

Danez Smith - Homie
811.6 SMITH

Ocean Vuong - Night Sky With Exit Wounds
811.6 VUONG

Franz Wright - Walking to Martha's Vineyard
811.54 W931W

C.D. Wright - ShallCross
811.54 WRIGHT

Jon Ashbery - Collected Poems Vo1. 1 1956-1987 & Vol. 2 1991-2000
811.54 ASHBERY
(*Houseboat Days, Hotel Lautréamont*, and most of his individual collections are available on Hoopla)

Gwendolyn Brooks - Selected Poems
811.54 BROOKS

Hart Crane - Collected Poems and Selected Letters
811.52 CRANE

Emily Dickinson - Collected Poems
811.4 DICKINSON
(also available on Hoopla)

Robert Hayden - Collected Poems
811.52 HAYDEN

Marianne Moore - The Poems of Marianne Moore
811.52 M785P

Sylvia Plath - The Collected Poems
811.54 PLATH
(also available on Hoopla)

Adrienne Rich - Collected Poems
811.54 RICH

Gertrude Stein - Writings 1903-1932
818.52 STEIN 1903-1932
(several additional collections available on Hoopla)

Wallace Stevens - The Collected Poetry and Prose
811.52ST47C
(several individual collections available on Hoopla)

William Carlos Williams - The Collected Poems of William Carlos Williams
811.52 WILLIAMS V.1
(several individual collections available on Hoopla)