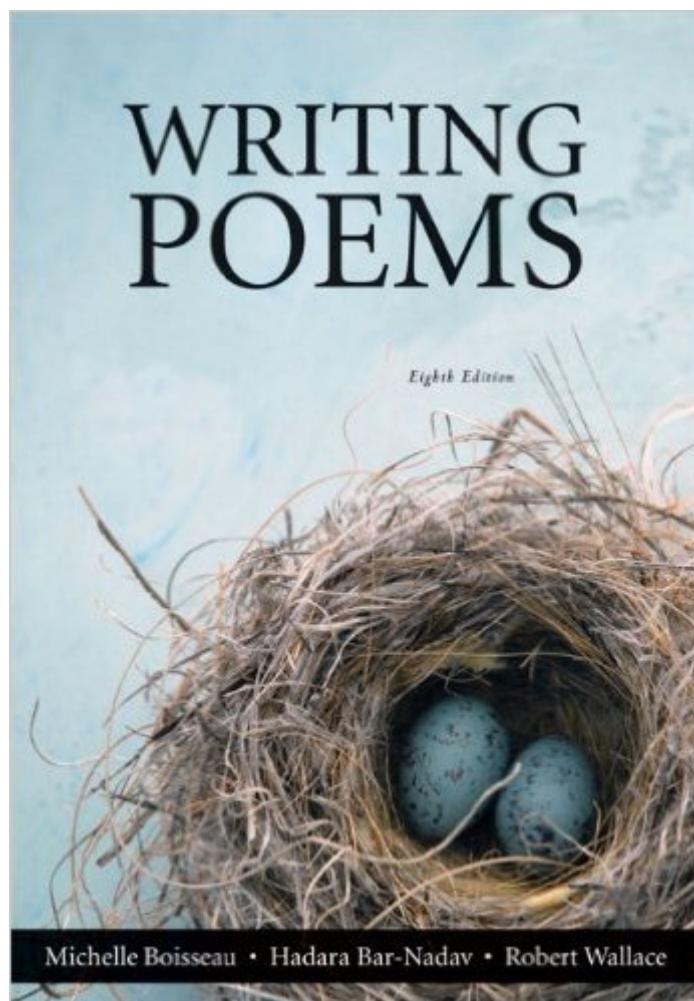


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Writing Poems (8th Edition)



Synopsis

The gold standard of poetry writing books, Writing Poems, 8/e is a comprehensive, easy-to-use guide that will help aspiring poets to create meaningful works.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have taught this book in its various editions in the Writers' Program at UCLA for many years. It is simply the best textbook I have ever found to demystify poetry and inspire would-be poets. Not only is the text clear, cogent and lively, but the examples of poetry used -- from Sharon Olds' "Sex Without Love" and Norman Dubie's "A Blue Hog", to Yusef Komunyakaa's "Sunday Afternoons" and Richard Wilbur's "Love Calls Us to the Things of the World" (plus classics such as W.C. Williams' "The Red Wheelbarrow" and Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken") -- are uniformly first rate. If you want to learn how to write poetry well and do not live near an urban writing center, you can do no better than to buy this book.

I have a previous edition of this book which I've really enjoyed, but something seems to have washed out of this current offering. The book is dedicated to Robert Wallace, who died during the compilation of edition #4, and I'm wondering if the book didn't go to press in a daze. This edition seems slicker, perkier, and less succinct than its siblings. Still useful and nutritious but in that low-salt, high-fiber way that I don't want my poems or books about poems to have. My suggestion is to try an earlier edition. In my daydreams, every poet has read this book (edition #2 I can vouch for),

as well as the books "Western Wind" and "In the Palm of Your Hand" and gorgeous, flexing poems are lying about everywhere. It could happen.

I took an advanced poetry course from Michelle Boisseeau who taught from this text. She was enlightening, helpful, and inspiring. The book was more so. I re-read the book after taking the course and found it even more helpful in reflecting on the course. Michelle Boisseeau is one of our most talented and hard-working poets. Her approach is as clearly revealed in this book as any poet could hope to impart. Don't read this book expecting to come out a poet, but read this book and plan on learning a great deal about the process of writing poetry.

The author has an uncanny ability to bring to the surface the hidden elements of the poem that enrich it and establish its quality as art. The selection of poems is made from well known poets vividly illustrating the points he is making. This is a creative writing text of the first order, not an advocacy brief with a social agenda.

WRITING POEMS by Michelle Boisseeau and Robert Wallace, 6th ed., offers clear advice, appropriate examples, and stimulating suggestions for creating poems. I recommend this text to advanced poetry students who have had at least one semester of creative writing. R. S. Gwynn's Poetry: A Harper Collins Pocket Anthology would complement this text in a junior-level college poetry writing course.

This book really helped me improve my poetry writing. It is filled with a lot of good tips that I now follow. Not to mention it includes several of my favorite poems. I'm glad I bought this book. Received in good condition for a far better price than my university's book store.

This is great material. I just started on Part II in the book and my writing has improved quite a bit and continues to improve with every chapter. However it is intended as a text book and includes some group activities, but most are individual.

This book arrived well ahead of schedule, and was clean and in good shape. The book is well written and helpful with plenty of wonderful poems and examples. I would definitely recommend this to anyone needing to know more about writing poems.

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