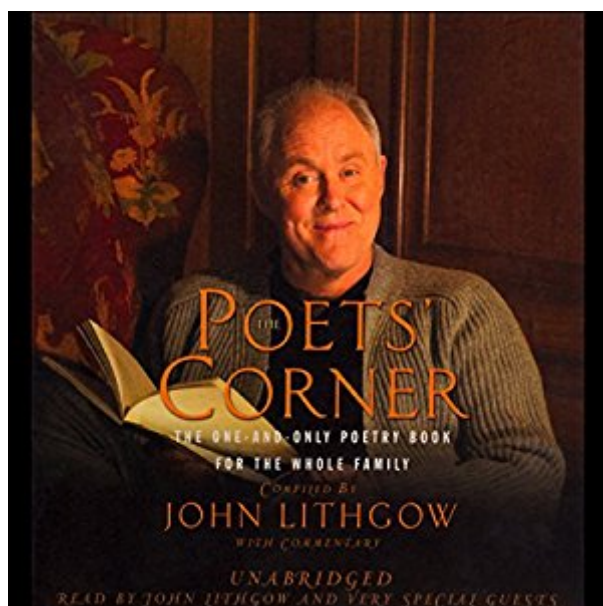


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# The Poets' Corner: The One-and-Only Poetry Book For The Whole Family



## Synopsis

This unique package provides a one-of-a-kind poetry experience from one of today's most beloved performers. John Lithgow has compiled an outstanding collection of memorable poetry and has gathered his famous friends to read them. The wide variety of carefully selected poems in this audiobook provide the perfect introduction to reel in those who are new to poetry, and for poetry lovers to experience beloved verses in a fresh, vivid way. Read by John Lithgow, Morgan Freeman, Jodie Foster, Glenn Close, Gary Sinise, Helen Mirren, Billy Connolly, Robert Sean Leonard, Kathy Bates, Sam Waterston, and Eileen Atkins. The Poets' Corner: CD 1 //1 Hachette Audio presents: The Poets' Corner Read by John Lithgow (Introduction) 2 One of the Childcraft Books (introduction) Read by John Lithgow 3 Matthew Arnold: The Serious Poet (introduction) 4 Dover Beach, by Matthew Arnold Read by Eileen Atkins 5 W.H. Auden: The High/Low Poet (intro) 6 Musée des Beaux Arts, by W.H. Auden Read by Jodie Foster 7 John Berryman: The Alter Ego (intro) 8 Henry's Confession, by John Berryman Read by Gary Sinise 9 Elizabeth Bishop: The Poet's Poet (intro) 10 Filling Station, by Elizabeth Bishop Read by Gary Sinise 11 William Blake: The Mystical Visionary (intro) 12 The Tyger, by William Blake Read by Helen Mirren 13 The Lamb, by William Blake Read by John Lithgow 14 Gwendolyn Brooks: The Visionary (intro) 15 We Real Cool, by Gwendolyn Brooks Read by Morgan Freeman 16 Elizabeth Barrett Browning: The Beloved (intro) 17 Sonnet 43, by Elizabeth Barrett Browning Read by Helen Mirren 18 The Best Thing in the World, by Elizabeth Barrett Browning Read by Helen Mirren 19 Robert Burns: The Ploughman Poet (intro) 20 To a Mouse, by Robert Burns Read by Bill Connolly 21 A Red Rose, by Robert Burns Read by John Lithgow FOR A COMPLETE TRACK LISTING, visit:

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## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I write poetry and creative non-fiction. I borrowed this book at the library and liked it so much I decided to buy off for my reference. If any of you know John Lithgow's work, you'll know that not only is he a wonderful actor, but he plays guitar and sings children's songs, write's children's books and has a wonderful sense of humour (parden my Canadian spelling). This book is great because he does a small history on the poet and his/her motivations and breaks it down into interesting facts and personable anecdotes. At the end of the history there is always a quote from the poet, and a noting of Lithgow's favourites for further reading outside the book. He then gives a wonderful example of the poet's work. One of the great things about the book is that under the poet's name it notes the type of poetry each individual poet was unique for (and in some instances, invented). For instance Lewis Carroll is "The Storyteller", John Donne "The Metaphysical Poet" and Ezra Pound "The Imagist". It is really helpful if you are studying poetry and trying to remember what style that poet wrote in. Another wonderful addition to the book is an MP3 CD of him and other famous vocal readers (Jodie Foster, Gary Sinise). You can sit with your children before bedtime and listen to some of these readings and enjoy. I personally love to read poetry to my children, they are wide-eyed and listen in wonderment to the words, images upon images popping into their young imaginations as I read. Exposing children (and other family members - especially the unwilling!) will really help their sense of timing and rhythm when writing and speaking, increase their vocabulary and give them that creative spirit that we all need to nurture. Thank you John, for introducing me to E.E. Cummings, all I can say is "WOW"! Highly, highly recommended.

Was told, poetry needs to be heard. How right they were. Got this out of the library, but as the silly library eventually wanted it back...I bought my own. Great for errands in a car...where it's off and on, entertaining and way better than radio.

There is no dearth of anthologies available that are more comprehensive or more theme targeted, yet few give the "poetry hater" a 2nd chance to become acquainted with verse. Just having a well known personality author such a collection is half the battle in taking the "artsy-fartsy" stigma out of the equation. And let's face it, a 500 poem collection commencing chronologically with entries from

the middle ages is not the most inviting way to introduce a friend to the rhyming arts. Much better to offer a brief and eclectic selection put together by a well known and well liked pop culture figure. Lithgow's demi-bios and personal choices for further investigation of each poet further offers a gentle entre for the neophyte and the included CD is a bonus for the younger children in the family. My singular criticism of the contents is the exclusion of Lord Byron's "So We'll Go No More a-Roving", a 12 line rhyme of loss and regret credited by many with promoting their life long interest in poetry. The point here is that this volume is not for the self acclaimed poetry lover who most likely has the included material in other collections. This is a book, and I feel a very good one, for those that have not yet made poetry a part of their lives. Finally, one should note the titles' homage to the colloquial approbation given that section of Westminster Abbey where Chaucer and many who followed him are laid to rest; a fitting title I think.

John Lithgow selected and talks to us about a wide and lovely array of English Language Poems. Each poem is read by an actor. Some are silly, others heartbreaking, some angry, a few ecstatic and many longing. If you want to get involved with poetry or reintroduce yourself and/or another adult or older child this is an excellent vehicle to get you started. Recommend getting both this audiobook and the Kindle or printed version to read along. Each section is organized around one poet, Lithgow briefly discusses their lives, the poetry that is read and gives two or three recommendations of additional poems to read or hear, including when possible the poet reading his or her own work. Enjoyed hearing these poems read and discussed. Look forward to listening to these readings again and again.

I previously gave the "I Feel So Used" merchant "One Star." Then, within a short time, I heard from them and they completely made the order right. Therefore, I must concede that they are a reputable dealer. I should have contacted them first. For that I apologize. This is a terrific book/MP3 CD for poetry lovers. The readers on the audio are well-known actors and all are excellent.

I purchased the audio version, and was greatly impressed. It was the six purchase I made through Audible on audio poetry books. I had been disappointed by previous purchases, and my expectations were low. The Poet's Corner was a huge improvement. The celebrity readers were excellent. The variety of poets and poetry was also excellent. Along with the readings of one or two poems per poet, Lithgow includes a list of four or five other "favorite" poems. I discovered new poets that I subsequently purchased more books for. I also re-discovered poets I had read in school and

couldn't remember. Other poets, whose more "popular" poems I'd heard a hundred times but didn't care for, were represented in The Poet's Corner with lesser known works that wowed me, and again lead to more purchases!! I enjoyed the audio version so much, I've listened to it twice in the last two weeks, and also purchased the kindle version! Lithgow did a great job with this book. And to him, I say, thank you.

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