

READER SPOTLIGHT

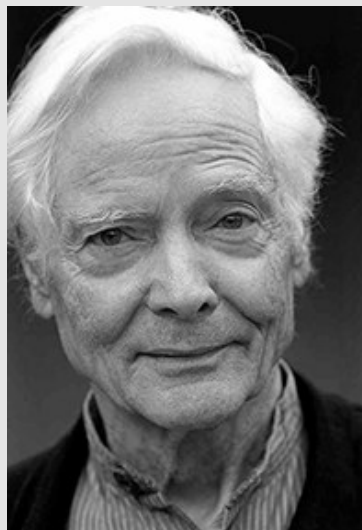
Welcome to a special Reader Spotlight—in which we ask a library patron to tell us about their favorite poets!

Elizabeth Landrum



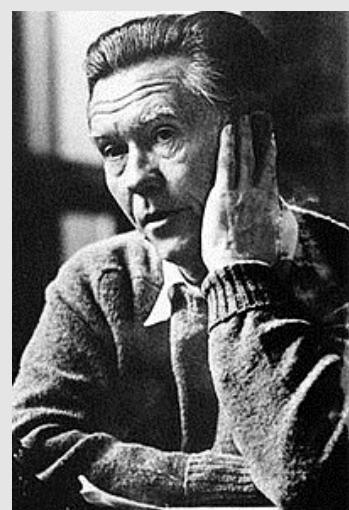
Jane Hirshfield

“She is a Zen Buddhist and talks about the complexity of life in plain language. It looks simple but is not. She has a profound empathy for living things. Her rhythms are almost trance-like. Her poems are enjoyable to hear or read aloud.”



W. S. Merwin

“He is a prolific writer, more than 50 books. I appreciate his unique, unpunctuated style. Literally no punctuation. Reading his poetry makes you slow down and be there with him. He speaks about the profound power of memory and awareness of mortality.”



William Stafford

“If I had to take one book to a desert island, his might be the one I’d pick. He was a passionate pacifist. Reading Stafford brings you down into that quiet place easily. Highly personal poems, very connected with landscape, keeps us from losing touch with the land.”



Stanley Kunitz

“He became the United States Poet Laureate at age 86 and wrote up until his death at age 100. Some of the poetry from his aging years is just about him loving his garden. The words just pop off the page. He is a master in the art of wonder.”



Ellen Bass

“She is such a delight to read because of her humor. She has a way of zeroing in on things like the look in someone’s eye or a speck on the floor. She offers a window into the absurdities of life. I see her as trust-worthy guide to life.”



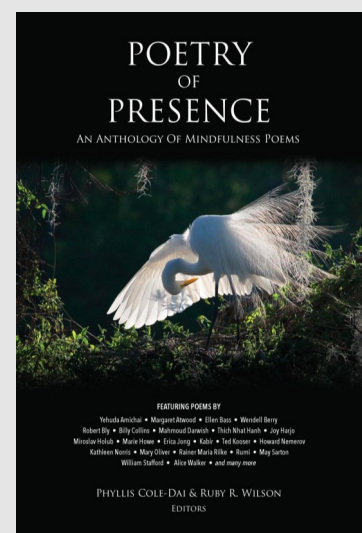
Naomi Shihab Nye

“When I read her poem *Kindness*, I wanted to memorize it right away. She writes about universal themes like cross-cultural understandings. Her father is Palestinian and her mother American. But she also writes about small, ordinary things. She wrote a poem about an onion and you get the full experience of being with the onion.”



Wendell Berry

“He’s well-known as an essayist, novelist, and a poet. I’m personally attracted to his work because he’s from Kentucky close to where I’m from. His love of Kentucky comes through in his writing. He has a deep reverence for land, community, and how to stay connected to the earth. He does a beautiful job of celebrating the holiness of the everyday.”



Poetry of Presence

“This is a brilliantly curated collection - perfect for the ‘poetically afraid.’ Each poem in the collection is like a mindful meditation. It’s a book that I would recommend keeping at the bedside and reading a poem before you go to sleep.”

Brought To You By
Lopez Island Library

