



Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry

By Nikki Moustaki

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Discover the poet within! You've read poetry that has touched your heart, and you'd like to improve your own writing technique. But even though you have loads of inspiration, you're discovering that good instruction can be as elusive as a good metaphor. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry will help you compose powerful, emotion-packed poems that you can be proud of. You'll learn simple explanations of poetry building blocks such as metaphor, imagery, symbolism and stanzas; steps to the poetic process; easy-to-follow guidelines for writing sonnets, sestinas, narrative poems and more; fun exercises to help you master the basics of poetry writing; cliches and other poetry pitfalls to avoid; advice on writers' conferences and workshops; tips on getting your poetry published; good poems that will inspire your own work; strategies to beat writer's block.

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Editorial Review

From the Author

Remember the excitement of writing that first haiku in fourth grade, how proud you were of counting those syllables, 5-7-5, and having the poem come out just right? I do. I also remember writing a term paper on the poet Robert Frost in 11th grade – I fell in love with his language and found myself intrigued with his tragic history. I've been hooked on poetry ever since. I've made it a big part of my life.

If you're reading this letter, chances are that you share a similar feeling. Once it gets into you, poetry has a way of staying put. Poetry is an art whose fans and critics are also practitioners as well. Rarely does a fan of classical music take up composing, or an art critic take up sculpting. But poetry is special. You can practice it anywhere – at home, work, in prison, on a deserted island – provided you have a pencil and a scrap of paper.

I believe that beginners first come to poetry as an art partly because they already own the tools to make it. If you can read and write, chances are you also can pen a poem. But there's a misconception that a pen and paper is all you need. A great poem takes more than just the ability to form legible words with a ballpoint. Much more.

This book will take you through the skills you require to become a good poet. I can't promise you greatness and fame, but I can promise you that you'll learn the parts and pieces that make up a poem – the feeling and inspiration are between you and your muse. You'll also get practical advice on journaling, revision, workshops, reading in public, poetry exercises, and the recognition most poets desire – publishing.

Are you going to find everything you need to know about poetry here? Well, no. But you'll find more than a start – this book will take you far beyond novice status if you practice along with the exercises and suggestions – you may even find some great successes along the way.

From the Inside Flap

Discover the poet within!

You're no idiot, of course. You've read poetry that has touched your heart, and you'd like to improve your own writing technique. But even though you have loads of inspiration, you're discovering that good instruction can be as elusive as a good metaphor...

Don't let your muse leave you! With loads of smart advice and helpful exercises, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry* will help you compose powerful, emotion-packed poems that you can be proud of. In this Complete Idiot's Guide, you get:

Simple explanations of the building blocks of poetry metaphor, imagery, symbolism, stanzas and more.

A step-by-step guide to the poetic process—from your first inspiration to your poem's last stanza.

Easy-to-follow guidelines for writing sonnets, sestinas, narrative poems, and more!

Straightforward descriptions of getting the most out of your creative process

Fun exercises to help you master the basics of poetry writing Idiot-proof advice on how to use many popular

poetic forms

You'll also learn how to...

Write poems full of powerful imagery.

Decide whether or not to use rhyme in your poems.

Avoid clichés and other poetry pitfalls.

Revise your writing.

Start a reading series—or a poetry slam.

Get the most out of a writers' conference.

Start a workshop.

Get your poems published.

Beat writers' block.

Find good poems that will inspire your own work.

Read your own poetry aloud.

From the Back Cover

Discover the poet within! You've read poetry that has touched your heart, and you'd like to improve your own writing technique. But even though you have loads of inspiration, you're discovering that good instruction can be as elusive as a good metaphor. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry will help you compose powerful, emotion-packed poems that you can be proud of. You'll learn simple explanations of poetry building blocks such as metaphor, imagery, symbolism and stanzas; steps to the poetic process; easy-to-follow guidelines for writing sonnets, sestinas, narrative poems and more; fun exercises to help you master the basics of poetry writing; cliches and other poetry pitfalls to avoid; advice on writers' conferences and workshops; tips on getting your poetry published; good poems that will inspire your own work; strategies to beat writer's block.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joshua Arwood:

Precisely why? Because this Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book possess such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I have been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Manuel Jett:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or maybe 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind talent or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your limited time to read it because this all time you only find book that need more time to be examine. Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you actually who have those short spare time problems.

Lien Fugate:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to your account is Complete Idiot's Guide to Writing Poetry this reserve consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how does the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some study when he makes this book. Here is why this book ideal all of you.

Rodolfo Buker:

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