



Hopkins: Poems (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets)

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These Everyman's Library Pocket Poets hardcover editions are popular for their compact size and reasonable price which do not compromise content. **Poems: Hopkins** contains a full selection of Hopkins's work, including selected verse, prose, and letters, and an index of first lines.

Hopkins: Poems (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets) Details

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From Reader Review Hopkins: Poems (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets) for online ebook

Jessen says

I just finished this collection, and I've already started the book over to read through his poetry again. Needless to say, I have definitely found my new favorite poet. His writing is so vivid, beautiful, and unexpected that his meaning and the emotion his poetry elicits are even more effective, since you've had to ponder his words. I know the same could (should) be said for a lot of poetry, but his is distinctive in a way I haven't put my finger on yet- and it's refreshing. Hopkins himself said in a letter to his friend, "why, sometimes one enjoys and admires the very lines one cannot understand... " His poetry is full of awe at the created world, and often of sorrow, which to me is a marker of his personal experience of human nature and of God. His poetry reads like an excess of emotion which just bubbled out of him- his imagery is almost startlingly beautiful- so it was interesting at the end to read his notes on how precise he was with his sprung rhythm and the technical correctness of his poetry. It reads as though it was effortless. I absolutely recommend!

Susannah says

he's finally starting to get his just due for his impact on modern poetry, but it was a long time coming. hopkins' perspective on nature and god is always profound, poetic, and as beautiful as any of the subjects he writes about. favorite poem? well, almost too hard to pick. but - wreck of the deustchland. or inversnайд.

Chava says

The poet feels nature, life, so deeply he is overwhelmed. He sometimes invents words and grammar to express his ecstasy. I just love Hopkins for this, for his passion.

Two of my favorite poems:

Pied Beauty

Glory be to G-d for dappled things-
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in the stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced - fold, fallow and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All thing counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:

Praise him.

---GMH

The Windhover

I caught this morning morning's minion, kingdom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding
Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing
In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing,
As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend:
the hurl and gliding
Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding
Stirred for a bird, - the achieve of, the mastery
of the thing!

Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here
Buckle! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion
Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier!

No wonder of it: sheer plod makes plough down
sillion
Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear,
Fall, gall themselves, the gash gold-vermilion.

GMH

Wesley Hill says

My favorite poet.

Nathan Huffstutler says

I enjoyed both the poems and the journals. The journals show that Hopkins was a detailed observer of nature, of words, of people. He was fascinated by quirks of all kinds--quirky words, quirky accents, quirky trees, quirky cloud formations . . . To Hopkins, every thing, every single object in nature, had a unique place in God's design and a unique role in showing His glory. Every created thing in this universe "selves." That is, it points to God just by being what it is. This concept is reflected in Hopkins' poem "God's Grandeur":

Glory be to God for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;

Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.

I love those last two lines--a contrast between the infinite variety of nature and the changelessness of God. The last line, abruptly short, shows that after considering these things, the poet is speechless.

Of course, Hopkins' poetry is amazing. I have been familiar with some of his poems since college, but this book introduced me to a lot of new ones. I also read "The Wreck of the Deutschland" in full for the first time. This poem especially shows Hopkins' complex style, in which he uses original rhythms and original words. Hopkins' style reflects the influence of Anglo-Saxon poetry--a lot of alliteration, and an attention to not the number of total syllables in a line, but the number of stressed syllables. The syntax is frequently convoluted. It takes some work for the reader, but it is very rewarding, especially when he points us to the glory of God. For one more taste of his style, here's the last part of "The Wreck of the Deutschland":

Let him easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness
of us, be a crimson-cresseted east,
More brightening her, rare-dear Britain, as his reign rolls,
Pride, rose, prince, hero of us, high-priest,
Our heart's charity's hearth's fire, our thoughts'
chivalry's throng's Lord.

(Originally reviewed 2014)

Douglas Wilson says

Some great poetry here. And the second half of the book is prose -- letters, notes, etc. Well worth while.

Aya says

So like yes clearly I love Hopkins but mostly the back half of this book is his prose which I seriously enjoyed but also seriously needed some annotations for. Not really Everman's brief & I get that

Chrystal says

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889): English poet, Jesuit priest.

All I knew of Hopkins before reaching for this Everyman's collection was his poem "Pied Beauty," which I

first read in High School; however, at the time, there was no mention of prosody or sprung rhythm that I can recall. I still don't know what those terms mean, but reading these poems, I can tell there is something very unique and different going on with Hopkins. I can't say that I understood more than 1/4 of these poems, and the "sprung rhythm" feels awkward on my lead tongue and falls clumsily on my tin ear. I think his innovative style will probably become more comfortable to me with practice. My favorites are not surprisingly the ones with a more traditional rhythm, such as "Penmaen Pool" and "Inversnaid," which sound like ballads, and the beautiful religious poems "The Half-way House," "The Habit of Perfection," and "Nondum."

Everyman's has done a wonderful thing in including not only poems but excerpts from letters, diaries, and essays. Hopkins' notes on flowers, clouds, water and ice, are just as lyrical and perceptive as his poems themselves.

On the Northern Lights: "This busy working of nature wholly independent of the earth and seeming to go on in a strain of time not reckoned by our reckoning of days and years but simpler and as if correcting the preoccupation of the world by being preoccupied with and appealing to and dated to the day of judgment was like a new witness to God and filled me with delightful fear."

Caryn Hederman says

Poetry. The soul-filling Hopkins in an accessible, portable format. Read (memorize, and recollect upon) if you appreciate poetry with an intense feeling for nature and an ecstatic awareness of its divine origins. Lovely poetry, wonderful presentation.

Rachel says

I do love me some Gerard. The prose is shockingly dry, considering how un-dry the poems are, but the journals have their moments of transcendence. Hop's poetry remains some of the most difficult and dazzling I've read.

Anika says

Gerard Manley Hopkins is my second favorite poet of all time. This collection is small and contains the poem, "I wake and feel the fell of dark not day" which I have been trying to memorize for years, but can't seem to do it. Even when I take this book around with me for a month, practicing in every spare moment - it must be his writing. Beyond me. I love it so much.

Kevin says

People pretend to enjoy Hopkins because they're told to. They're told to because it serves certain schools that

have to be propped up artificially because they cannot stand on their own. Hopkins could have been a good poet if he'd bothered writing poetry. Instead, he fuddled about with obscurity and novelty, making himself a cause for future destroyers to take up in order to bolster their own nonsense. Anyone who says they like this stuff can be safely ignored and their opinions on any other poet dismissed out of hand.

Ty says

I always enjoy the arrangements from the Pocket Poets series. They're perfect for carrying around on trips and I carried this one in my trip to India.

Unlike many of the Pocket Poets volumes, this one contains both poetry and prose by Hopkins. My favorite poems were:

The Lantern out of Doors
Morning, Midday, and Evening Sacrifice

In the prose section, the letters contained some valuable explanations of his view of poetry and the extracts from his notebooks reveal that even Hopkin's journal entries were full of poetic wonder at the glory of God's creation. One particular gem (for teachers at least) this:

"It is a happy thing that there is no royal road to poetry. The world should know by this time that one cannot reach Parnassus except by flying thither. Yet from time to time more men go up and either perish in its gullies fluttering /excelsior/ flags or else come down again with full folios and blank countenances. Yet the old fallacy keeps its ground. Every age has its false alarms."

Finally, the best part of the prose section is the section at the end called "The Principle or Foundation." This contains a philosophical treatment of glorifying God and of the nature of the self. How much better things would be if more poets were philosophers and more philosophers were poets!

"Man was made to give, and mean to give, glory to God."

Christine Norvell says

I love the pocket edition! Most anyone who has read a little poetry is familiar with "God's Grandeur," but Hopkins only wrote about 50 complete poems. It truly doesn't take much time to read through his works. I am naturally drawn to his religious themes like "Peace" but also find the observational bits from his notebooks most intriguing. Where else can you see a poet's mind at work as he thinks through the adjectives to describe the color of early wheat against long beige grasses?

Elise says

I love Gerard Manley Hopkins!! Two of my favorite poems are "God's Granduer" and "As Kingfishers Catch Fire." I have read and will read his poetry book many times!

