

best of the best american poetry david lehman

****Exploring the Best of the Best American Poetry David Lehman Curates****

best of the best american poetry david lehman is more than just a phrase—it embodies a rich tradition of American verse celebrated through a keen editorial eye and a passion for poetic excellence. David Lehman, a distinguished poet, critic, and editor, has played a pivotal role in shaping contemporary American poetry, particularly through his stewardship of the **Best American Poetry** series. If you're curious about what makes this series stand out and how Lehman's influence enhances the anthology, you're in for an insightful journey.

The Legacy of the Best American Poetry Series

The **Best American Poetry** series has been an annual literary event since its inception in 1988. Each year, a guest editor collaborates with David Lehman, who serves as the series editor, to select standout poems from a vast array of literary journals, magazines, and online platforms. Lehman's consistent presence ensures a cohesive vision and maintains high editorial standards, while the rotating guest editors introduce fresh perspectives.

David Lehman's Role and Vision

David Lehman's involvement goes beyond curating poems; he sets the tone and direction of the anthology. His deep understanding of poetic forms, contemporary trends, and historical contexts allows him to balance innovation with tradition. Lehman's editor's notes and introductions often provide readers with valuable insights into the evolving landscape of American poetry, making the anthology not only a collection of poems but also a commentary on the art form itself.

Why the Best of the Best American Poetry David Lehman

Edition Matters

When people talk about the *best of the best American poetry David Lehman* has been involved in, they're referring to anthologies that capture the essence of American poetic voices at their most vibrant and diverse. The series serves as a barometer for the health of American poetry, highlighting emerging talents alongside established names.

Showcasing Diversity and Innovation

One of the most commendable aspects of the series is its commitment to showcasing a wide range of voices. From experimental free verse to traditional sonnets, from poets of various ethnicities and backgrounds to those pushing the boundaries of form, the anthology reflects America's rich cultural mosaic. Lehman's editorial eye ensures that these selections resonate with authenticity and artistic merit.

Educational Value for Poets and Readers

For aspiring poets, the *Best American Poetry* series, especially under Lehman's guidance, is an invaluable resource. It exposes them to different styles, themes, and techniques, encouraging growth and exploration. For general readers, it provides an accessible yet profound introduction to contemporary American poetry, making the often intimidating world of poetry approachable and engaging.

What Sets David Lehman's Editions Apart?

Not all poetry anthologies are created equal, and the *best of the best American poetry David Lehman* editions stand apart for several reasons.

Curatorial Expertise

Lehman's extensive background as a poet and scholar equips him with the discernment needed to identify poems that are not only beautifully crafted but also culturally and emotionally resonant. His ability to recognize both subtle nuances and bold innovations in poetry sets these anthologies apart.

Collaboration with Guest Editors

Each year, Lehman collaborates with a guest editor—often a notable poet or critic—who brings their unique voice and taste to the selection process. This dynamic partnership ensures variety within continuity, keeping each edition fresh while maintaining a high standard. Readers can discover how different poetic sensibilities shape the collection year after year.

Accessible Yet Thought-Provoking Content

Lehman's editorial philosophy leans towards inclusivity without compromising depth. The poems chosen tend to be accessible enough for a broad audience but layered with meanings that reward closer reading. This balance helps to demystify poetry and invites readers from all walks of life to engage with the art form.

Exploring Themes and Trends in Lehman's Curated Poetry

Over the decades, the *Best American Poetry* series has captured shifting themes and trends in American poetry, reflecting broader societal changes.

Embracing Contemporary Issues

Many poems curated under Lehman's editorship address pressing contemporary issues such as identity, race, politics, environmental concerns, and personal trauma. This responsiveness keeps poetry relevant and alive, connecting readers with the world around them.

Experimentation with Form and Language

Lehman's selections often include poets who experiment with form, syntax, and language. This openness to innovation encourages readers to experience poetry in new ways, whether through visual poetry, hybrid genres, or linguistic playfulness.

Tips for Readers and Poets Engaging with Best American Poetry

Whether you're a seasoned poetry lover or just beginning your poetic journey, engaging with the *best of the best American poetry David Lehman* curates can be deeply rewarding.

- **Read Actively:** Take your time with each poem. Reflect on the imagery, rhythm, and emotions.

- **Explore the Editors' Notes:** Lehman and the guest editors often provide valuable context that enhances understanding.
- **Compare Editions:** Looking at different years reveals evolving themes and styles, offering a broader perspective.
- **Write Alongside:** Use the anthology as inspiration for your own writing, experimenting with forms and themes you encounter.
- **Join Discussions:** Many literary communities and book clubs discuss these anthologies, which can enrich your experience.

The Impact of Best American Poetry on the Literary Landscape

The influence of the *Best American Poetry* series extends beyond its pages. By spotlighting emerging poets and innovative works, the series helps shape literary careers and trends. David Lehman's steady editorial hand has ensured that the anthology remains a respected and eagerly anticipated publication each year.

Many poets featured in the series have gone on to receive prestigious awards and become influential voices in American literature. For readers, the series serves as a trusted guide through the vast and varied world of modern poetry.

Immersing yourself in the *best of the best American poetry David Lehman* has helped bring to light is like joining a conversation that spans generations, cultures, and experiences. It's an invitation to explore language's power to capture the human condition in its many forms. Whether you're reading for pleasure, education, or inspiration, these anthologies offer a treasure trove of poetic brilliance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Best of the Best American Poetry' edited by David Lehman?

'The Best of the Best American Poetry' is a special anthology edited by David Lehman that compiles standout poems from previous editions of the annual 'Best American Poetry' series, highlighting some of the finest contemporary American poems selected over the years.

Who is David Lehman in relation to American poetry?

David Lehman is a renowned poet, literary critic, and editor known primarily for founding and editing the annual 'Best American Poetry' series, which showcases contemporary American poets and their work.

How does 'The Best of the Best American Poetry' differ from the regular annual editions?

Unlike the regular annual editions that feature new poems each year, 'The Best of the Best American Poetry' is a curated collection selecting the most memorable and impactful poems from previous editions, offering readers a refined overview of the series' highlights.

What criteria does David Lehman use to select poems for 'The Best of the Best American Poetry'?

David Lehman selects poems based on their enduring quality, cultural impact, and representation of diverse voices and styles within American poetry, aiming to showcase poems that have had significant resonance since their original publication.

Is 'The Best of the Best American Poetry' suitable for new readers of contemporary poetry?

Yes, the anthology serves as an excellent introduction to contemporary American poetry by presenting a thoughtfully curated selection of highly regarded poems, making it accessible and engaging for both new readers and poetry enthusiasts.

Where can I purchase or find 'The Best of the Best American Poetry' edited by David Lehman?

'The Best of the Best American Poetry' can be purchased through major book retailers such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or independent bookstores. It may also be available in libraries and digital platforms offering poetry collections.

Additional Resources

Best of the Best American Poetry David Lehman: An In-Depth Exploration

best of the best american poetry david lehman represents a significant touchstone in contemporary American literary culture. David Lehman, as the founding editor of the acclaimed annual anthology series **The Best American Poetry**, has played an instrumental role in shaping the modern poetic landscape in the United States. His editorial vision and discerning eye have curated collections that not only showcase the diversity and vitality of American poetry but also engage readers with a rich tapestry of voices, styles, and themes.

This article delves into the essence of the "best of the best" selections within the **Best American Poetry** series curated by David Lehman, analyzing the anthology's impact, editorial approach, and the broader significance it holds in the poetry community. Throughout, relevant keywords such as American poetry anthology, David Lehman editor, contemporary poets, and poetry collection reviews are seamlessly integrated to provide a comprehensive and SEO-optimized narrative.

The Legacy of David Lehman and His Anthology Series

David Lehman's role as the series editor of **The Best American Poetry** since its inception in 1988 marks a remarkable editorial tenure, spanning over three decades. His commitment to spotlighting a wide range of poetic voices—from emerging talents to established luminaries—has distinguished the series from other anthologies that often favor a narrower scope.

The **Best American Poetry** series is unique in its annual format, each edition guest-edited by a prominent poet who brings a fresh perspective to the selection process. This rotating guest editor model, combined with Lehman's consistent stewardship, ensures a dynamic and evolving reflection of the contemporary poetic scene.

Editorial Philosophy and Selection Criteria

Lehman's editorial philosophy centers on inclusivity and innovation. He actively seeks poems that demonstrate craftsmanship, emotional depth, and cultural relevance. The "best of the best" American poetry, within this context, is not merely about technical perfection but also about resonance and originality.

The series draws from an expansive range of literary journals, magazines, and online publications, reflecting the democratization of poetry dissemination in the digital age. This wide net helps surface voices that might otherwise remain underrepresented, contributing to a richer and more pluralistic poetic canon.

Analyzing the "Best of the Best" American Poetry

When referring to the "best of the best American poetry David Lehman" has curated, it is essential to understand the anthology's role as both a barometer and a catalyst for poetic trends. The selections

often mirror broader cultural and social currents, offering insights into the evolving concerns of American poets.

Notable Poets and Poems Featured

Over the years, the anthology has included works by Pulitzer Prize winners, National Book Award recipients, and influential contemporary voices such as Louise Glück, Terrance Hayes, and Tracy K. Smith. The inclusion of such poets underscores the anthology's credibility and its function as a showcase for excellence.

Yet, Lehman's approach also highlights lesser-known poets whose work pushes formal boundaries or addresses underexplored topics. This balance between the established and the emerging enhances the anthology's reputation as a definitive collection of American poetry.

Stylistic Diversity and Thematic Range

The anthology's breadth is reflected in its stylistic diversity—from free verse to formal rhyme schemes, from confessional poetry to experimental narratives. The thematic range often spans identity, politics, nature, love, and existential reflection, offering readers a panoramic view of contemporary American poetry.

This diversity is not only a strength but a deliberate editorial choice that broadens the anthology's appeal and relevance. It stands as a testament to Lehman's understanding of poetry as a multifaceted art form that resists easy categorization.

Comparing *The Best American Poetry* to Other Poetry

Anthologies

In the crowded field of poetry anthologies, *The Best American Poetry* series holds a distinctive place. Unlike static anthologies that compile a fixed selection over time, Lehman's annual editions reflect the shifting landscape of American poetry, capturing its dynamism.

Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** The series' annual updates provide timely snapshots of poetic innovation. The guest editor model introduces diverse aesthetic preferences, preventing editorial stagnation. Lehman's reputation ensures rigorous selection standards.
- **Limitations:** Some critics argue that the series occasionally favors established literary circles, potentially overlooking marginalized voices. The annual format may also limit deeper exploration of poets' broader oeuvres.

Despite these critiques, *The Best American Poetry* remains a vital resource for readers, educators, and writers seeking to engage with contemporary American poetry in a curated format.

Influence on Poetry Education and Criticism

The anthology has become a staple in academic settings, often used in creative writing courses and literary studies. Its accessibility and breadth make it an excellent tool for introducing students to a wide array of poetic voices and styles.

Critically, the anthology has sparked discussions about poetic trends, the role of the editor, and the

evolving definition of “best” in poetry. These conversations contribute to a vibrant discourse that keeps the field intellectually engaged.

Features of the Best American Poetry Series under David Lehman

Several features distinguish the series and contribute to its reputation as a leading poetry anthology:

1. **Annual Guest Editors:** Each year, a respected poet curates the content, bringing unique perspectives that complement Lehman’s editorial oversight.
2. **Wide Source Base:** Poems are selected from a variety of literary journals, from prestigious print magazines to emerging online platforms.
3. **Accessible Format:** The collection balances literary merit with readability, making it approachable for both scholars and general readers.
4. **Forward-Looking Selections:** The series often includes experimental and hybrid forms, reflecting contemporary poetic innovation.

These features help maintain the anthology’s status as a definitive reference point for American poetry.

Pros and Cons of the David Lehman Anthology

- **Pros:** Comprehensive selection, diverse poetic voices, consistent quality, and influential editorial leadership.
- **Cons:** Potential biases towards certain literary circles, limited space for experimental forms in some editions, and the challenge of encapsulating a vast poetic landscape annually.

These considerations are important for readers and critics who engage with the series, providing a nuanced understanding of its editorial scope.

Throughout its history, *The Best American Poetry* under David Lehman has not only chronicled but also actively shaped the discourse around contemporary poetry in the United States. Its role as a curated snapshot of the nation's poetic output continues to inspire both appreciation and critical reflection among readers, poets, and scholars alike.

Best Of The Best American Poetry David Lehman

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best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2022 David Lehman, Matthew Zapruder, 2022-09-13 Updated annually, and collected from electronic and print journals, an anthology showcases recent work from the best known and up-and-coming contemporary poets.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2020 David Lehman, Paisley Rekdal, 2020-09-08 The 2020 edition of contemporary American poetry returns, guest edited by Paisley Rekdal, the award-winning poet and author of *Nightingale*, proving that this is “a ‘best’ anthology that really lives up to its title” (Chicago Tribune). Since 1988, The Best American Poetry anthology series has been “one of the mainstays of the poetry publication world” (Academy of American Poets). Each volume in the series presents some of the year’s most remarkable poems and poets. Now, the 2020 edition is guest edited by Utah’s Poet Laureate Paisely Rekdal, called “a poet of observation and history...[who] revels in detail but writes vast, moral poems that help us live in a world of contraries” by the Los Angeles Times. In The Best American Poetry 2020, she has selected a fascinating array of work that speaks eloquently to the “contraries” of our present moment in time.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2024 David

Lehman, Mary Jo Salter, 2024-09-03 Renowned poet Mary Jo Salter, whose command of verse forms and high intelligence is universally acknowledged, selects the poems for the 2024 edition of *The Best American Poetry*, “a ‘best’ anthology that really lives up to its title” (Chicago Tribune). The *Best American Poetry* series has been “one of the mainstays of the poetry publication world” (Academy of American Poets) since 1988. Each volume presents a curated selection of the year’s most brilliant, striking, and innovative poems, with comments from the poets themselves offering unique insight into their work. Here, guest editor Mary Jo Salter, whose own poems display a sublime wit “driven by a compulsion to confront the inexplicable” (James Longenbach), has picked seventy-five poems that capture the dynamism of American poetry today. The series and guest editors contribute valuable introductory essays that assess the current state of American poetry, and this year’s edition is certain to capture the attention of both *Best American Poetry* loyalists and newcomers to the most important poetry anthology of our time.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: New and Selected Poems David Lehman, 2013-11-05 A major collection of poems from one of our most accomplished poets, the prominent man of letters behind *The Best American Poetry* series. Drawing from a wealth of material produced over the course of more than forty years, David Lehman’s *New and Selected Poems* displays the remarkable range of his poetic genius. A gathering of stunning new poems, prose poems, and translations from modern French masters ushers in the book. Selections from each of Lehman’s seven full-length books of poetry follow and are capped off by a coda of important early and previously uncollected works. Lehman writes poems that captivate as they stimulate thought, poems that capture the romance, irony, and pathos of love, and poems that are lyrical and lovely in unexpected, sometimes even comic ways. This is David Lehman at his best.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2013 Denise Duhamel, David Lehman, 2013-09-10 Collects poems chosen by editor Denise Duhamel as the best of 2013, featuring 75 poets including Sherman Alexie, Daisy Fried, Elizabeth Hazen, and Noelle Kocot.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2007 Heather McHugh, David Lehman, 2007-09-11 The twentieth edition of the *Best American Poetry* series celebrates the rich and fertile landscape of American poetry. Renowned poet Heather McHugh loves words and the unexpected places they take you; her own poetry elevates wordplay to a species of metaphysical wit. For this year’s anthology McHugh has culled a spectacular group of poems reflecting her passion for language, her acumen, and her vivacious humor. Graced with McHugh’s fascinating introduction, the book includes the poets’ valuable comments on their work, as well as series editor David Lehman’s engaging foreword that limns the necessity of poetry. *The Best American Poetry 2007* is an exciting addition to a series committed to covering the American poetry scene and delivering great poems to a broad audience.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2009 David Wagoner, David Lehman, 2009-09-22 An anthology of contemporary poets presents works that reflect the diversity in American poetry.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2011 Kevin Young, David Lehman, 2011-09-20 Includes bibliographical references (p. 203-205).

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Birth of The Best David Lehman, 2023 Every September since 1988 a new edition of *The Best American Poetry* appears, quickening pulses, provoking arguments. From one year to the next, the editor’s name on the cover is different, as is the cover art. The series editor is the one constant: David Lehman. Here is the story of the development of this literary staple supplemented by the introductions to each edition since the first--

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2012 Mark Doty, 2012-09-18 Mark Doty brings the vitality and imagination that illuminate his own work to his selections for the twenty-fifth volume in the *Best American Poetry* series. He has chosen poems of high moral earnestness and poems in a comic register; poems that tell stories and poems that test the boundaries of innovative composition. This landmark edition includes David Lehman’s keen look at American poetry in his foreword, Mark Doty’s gorgeous introduction, and notes from the poets

revealing the germination of their work. Over the last twenty-five years, The Best American Poetry has become an annual rite of the poetry world, and this year's anthology is a welcome and essential addition to the series. SHERMAN ALEXIE * KAREN LEONA ANDERSON * RAE ARMANTROUT * JULIANNA BAGGOTT * DAVID BAKER * RICK BAROT * REGINALD DWAYNE BETTS * FRANK BIDART * BRUCE BOND * STEPHANIE BROWN * ANNE CARSON * JENNIFER CHANG * JOSEPH CHAPMAN * HEATHER CHRISTLE * HENRI COLE * BILLY COLLINS * PETER COOLEY * EDUARDO C. CORRAL * ERICA DAWSON * STEPHEN DUNN * ELAINE EQUI * ROBERT GIBB * KATHLEEN GRABER * AMY GLYNN GREACEN * JAMES ALLEN HALL * TERRANCE HAYES * STEVEN HEIGHTON * BRENDA HILLMAN * JANE HIRSHFIELD * RICHARD HOWARD * MARIE HOWE * AMORAK HUEY * JENNY JOHNSON * LAWRENCE JOSEPH * FADY JOUDAH * JOY KATZ * JAMES KIMBRELL * NOELLE KOCOT * MAXINE KUMIN * SARAH LINDSAY * AMIT MAJUMDAR * DAVID MASON * KERRIN McCADDEN * HONOR MOORE * MICHAEL MORSE * CAROL MUSKE-DUKES * ANGELO NIKOLOPOULOS * MARY OLIVER * STEVE ORLEN * ALICIA OSTRICKER * ERIC PANKEY * LUCIA PERILLO * ROBERT PINSKY * DEAN RADER * SPENCER REECE * PAISLEY REKDAL * MARY RUEFLE * DON RUSS * KAY RYAN * MARY JO SALTER * LYNNE SHARON SCHWARTZ * FREDERICK SEIDEL * BRENDA SHAUGHNESSY * PETER JAY SHIPPY * TRACY K. SMITH * BRUCE SNIDER * MARK STRAND * LARISSA SZPORLUK * DANIEL TOBIN * NATASHA TRETHEWEY * SUSAN WHEELER * FRANZ WRIGHT * DAVID YEZZI * DEAN YOUNG * KEVIN YOUNG

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2008 Charles Wright, David Lehman, 2008-09-16 The Best American Poetry series is a beloved mainstay of American poetry. This year's edition was edited by one of the most admired and acclaimed poets of his generation, Charles Wright. Known for his meditative and beautiful observations of landscape, change, and time, Wright brings his particular sensibility to this year's anthology, which contains an ecumenical slant that is unprecedented for the series. He has gathered an astonishing selection of work that includes new poems by Carolyn Forché, Jorie Graham, Louise Glück, Frank Bidart, Frederick Seidel, Patti Smith, and Kevin Young and showcases a dazzling array of rising stars like Joshua Beckman, Erica Dawson, and Alex Lemon. With captivating and revelatory notes from the poets on their works and sage and erudite introductory essays by Wright and series editor David Lehman, The Best American Poetry 2008 will be read, discussed, debated, and prized for years to come.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: The Best American Poetry 2025 David Lehman, Terence Winch, 2025-09-02 Guest edited by Terence Winch—NEA Fellow and editor of the “pick of the week” on the Best American Poetry blog—the 2025 edition marks a poignant farewell to series editor David Lehman, celebrating more than three decades of poetic excellence. For thirty-eight years, The Best American Poetry series has won widespread acclaim as the nation's most influential and vital poetry anthology. BAP, which has inspired similar ventures abroad, has garnered plaudits for its ability to capture the zeitgeist of American poetry. This year's anthology is guest edited by the esteemed poet and songwriter Terence Winch, who brings to the task his work as a musician and poetry editor as well as his many years of experience as head of publications at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. Winch, known for his inspired selections on the Best American Poetry blog, curates a vibrant array of compelling voices. The Best American Poetry 2025 is a landmark edition that not only showcases the finest contemporary American poetry but also honors David Lehman's achievement as the anthology's founding editor. “The list of editors is a who's who of US poetry elites,” writes Oxford professor of poetry A. E. Stallings. “And behind it all, the poet David Lehman, the series editor, has labored quietly and diligently ensuring its continuity and continued relevance.” Lehman's vision and dedication have shaped these collections into much-anticipated annual events, sparking lively discussion, controversy on occasion, and always a jubilant affirmation of modern American poetry. This year's edition stands as a testament to David Lehman's legacy—and to the enduring power of poetry.

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Lehman, Terrance Hayes, 2014-09-09 Collects poems chosen by the editors as the best of 2014, featuring works by John Ashbery, Anne Carson, Mary Ruefle, Frederick Seidel, and others.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: *The Best American Poetry 2004* Lyn Hejinian, David Lehman, 2004-09-14 The eagerly anticipated new edition of the yearly anthology of contemporary American poetry is now a brand name in the literary world.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: *The Best American Poetry 2019* David Lehman, Major Jackson, 2019-09-10 The 2019 edition of *The Best American Poetry*—"one of the mainstays of the poetry publication world" (Academy of American Poets)—now guest edited by Major Jackson, award-winning poet and poetry editor of the *Harvard Review*. Since 1988, *The Best American Poetry* has been the leading anthology of contemporary American poetry. The *Washington Post* said of the 2017 edition, "The poems...have a wonderful cohesion and flow, as if each contributes to a larger narrative about life today...While readers may question some of the selections—an annual sport with this series—most will find much that resonates, including the insightful author notes at the back of the anthology." The state of the world has inspired many to write poetry, and to read it—to share all the rage, beauty, and every other thing under the sun in the way that only poetry can. Now the foremost anthology of contemporary American poetry returns, guest edited by Major Jackson, the poet and editor who, "makes poems that rumble and rock" (poet Dorianne Laux). This brilliant 2019 edition includes some of the year's most defining, striking, and innovative poems and poets.

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best of the best american poetry david lehman: *Playlist* David Lehman, 2019-04-02 A New Collection of Poetry from the Editor of *The Best American Poetry*

best of the best american poetry david lehman: *The Best American Poetry 2005* Paul Muldoon, David Lehman, 2005-09-20 A vivid snapshot of what a distinguished poet finds exciting, fresh, and memorable . . . As good a comprehensive overview of contemporary poetry as there can be.--Robert Pinsky.

best of the best american poetry david lehman: *The Best American Poetry 2021* David Lehman, 2021-09-28 Since 1988, *The Best American Poetry* series has been one of the mainstays of the poetry publication world (Academy of American Poets). Each volume presents a choice of the year's most memorable poems, with comments from the poets themselves lending insight into their work. The guest editor of *The Best American Poetry 2021* is Tracy K. Smith, the former United States Poet Laureate, whose own poems are, Toi Derricotte's words, beautiful and serene in their surfaces with an underlying sense of an unknown vastness. In *The Best American Poetry 2021*, Smith has selected a distinguished array of works both vast and beautiful by such important voices as Henri Cole, Billy Collins, Louise Erdrich, Nobel laureate Louise Gl

best of the best american poetry david lehman: *The Best American Poetry 2010* Amy Gerstler, David Lehman, 2010-09-14 AMY GERSTLER'S COMMITMENT TO INNOVATIVE POETRY that conveys meaning, feeling, wit, and humor informs the cross section of poems in the 2010 edition of *The Best American Poetry*. The works collected here represent the wealth, the breadth, and the tremendous energy of poetry in the United States today. Featuring poems from some of our country's top bards, including John Ashbery, Anne Carson, Louise Glück, Sharon Olds, and Charles Simic, *The Best American Poetry 2010* also presents poems that poignantly capture the current moment, such as the sonnets John Updike wrote to chronicle his dying weeks. And there are exciting poems from a constellation of rising stars: Bob Hicok, Terrance Hayes, Denise Duhamel, Dean Young, and Elaine Equi, to name a very few. The anthology's mainstays are in place: It opens with series editor David Lehman's incisive foreword about the state of American poetry and has a marvelous introduction by Amy Gerstler. Notes from the poets, illuminating their poems and their writing processes, conclude this delightful addition to a classic series. Dick Allen * John Ashbery *

Sandra Beasley * Mark Bibbins * Todd Boss * Fleda Brown * Anne Carson * Tom Clark * David Clewell * Michael Collier * Billy Collins * Dennis Cooper * Kate Daniels * Peter Davis * Tim Dlugos * Denise Duhamel * Thomas Sayers Ellis * Lynn Emanuel * Elaine Equi * Jill Alexander Essbaum * B. H. Fairchild * Vievee Francis * Louise Glück * Albert Goldbarth * Amy Glynn Greacen * Sonia Greenfield * Kelle Groom * Gabriel Gudding * Kimiko Hahn * Barbara Hamby * Terrance Hayes * Bob Hicok * Rodney Jones * Michaela Kahn * Brigit Pegeen Kelly * Corinne Lee * Hailey Leithauser * Dolly Lemke * Maurice Manning * Adrian Matejka * Shane McCrae * Jeffrey McDaniel * W. S. Merwin * Sarah Murphy * Eileen Myles * Camille Norton * Alice Notley * Sharon Olds * Gregory Pardlo * Lucia Perillo * Carl Phillips * Adrienne Rich * James Richardson * J. Allyn Rosser * James Schuyler * Tim Seibles * David Shapiro * Charles Simic * Frank Stanford * Gerald Stern * Stephen Campbell Sutherland * James Tate * David Trinidad * Chase Twichell * John Updike * Derek Walcott * G. C. Waldrep * J. E. Wei * Dara Wier * Terence Winch * Catherine Wing * Mark Wunderlich * Matthew Yeager * Dean Young * Kevin Young

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