

Poetry has been around for nearly five millennia, yet never has it been more puzzling. Technology, social media, and the blinding pace of contemporary life leave many students and readers in the dark. Just in time, this book comes to the rescue not just with a response to the problem of understanding and enjoying poetry, but it offers a solution. A widely published writer and poet, the author takes the mystery and madness out of verse with specific strategies designed to tame the poetic wilderness—not by dumbing down the poems but by raising the ability of readers to absorb this gem of literary form. Readers of all abilities and sensibilities will profit from the book's ability to drill down to the bedrock of meaning. Valenti mines his decades of experience writing, publishing, and teaching poetry to provide innovative hints, tips, guidelines, and directives that will benefit anyone wishing to cultivate their enjoyment of literature's highest form of expression.

Dan Valenti is a poet, writer, editor, broadcaster, and blogger. With millions of published words and many awards, he is the author of numerous books. Dan has a B.A. in English, Union College, and a M.A. in journalism from Syracuse University, where he did post-graduate work. He lives in the Berkshires of Massachusetts with his wife, Lisa. Dan Valenti is the author of *Write It Real: A Practical Guide for the Prose Writer*, also published by Peter Lang.

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THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE


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VERSE OR ADVERSE

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How to Read and Enjoy Poetry

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