



Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: Poems About Food and Drink (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets)

From Washington, Peter (EDT)

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Eating and drinking and the rituals that go with them are at least as important as loving in most people's lives, yet for every hundred anthologies of poems about love, hardly one is devoted to the pleasures of the table. *Eat, Drink, and Be Merry* abundantly fills the gap.

All kinds of foods and beverages are laid out in these pages, along with picnics and banquets, intimate suppers and quiet dinners, noisy parties and public celebrations—in poems by Horace, Catullus, Hafiz, Rumi, Rilke, Moore, Nabokov, Updike, Mandelstam, Stevens, and many others. From Sylvia Plath's ecstatic vision of juice-laden berries in "Blackberrying" to D. H. Lawrence's lush celebration of "Figs," from the civilized comfort of Noël Coward's "Something on a Tray" to the salacious provocation of Swift's "Oysters," from Li Po on "Drinking Alone" to Baudelaire on "The Soul of the Wine," and from Emily Dickinson's "Forbidden Fruit" to Elizabeth Bishop's "A Miracle for Breakfast," *Eat, Drink, and Be Merry* serves up a tantalizing and variegated literary feast.

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Editorial Review

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The typical Everyman's Library Pocket Poets offering collects all of one writer's poems that a well-rounded reader should know. Occasionally, though, an original, topical anthology crops up. This is one, and it's not to be missed. The accent is on light verse--no surprise: after all, who doesn't feel lighthearted after a good feed or tipple?--from John Updike's "Food" ("Man's real best friend. / It doesn't bite back") in the first section, "Plain Food," to Richard Wilbur's "A Voice from under the Table," which closes the last section, "Liquor Is Quicker," with the floored observations of a cultivated sot. Each poem pertains to its section's topic, and the topics include, besides those already mentioned, "Square Meals," "Fruit," "Vegetables," "Delicatessen," "The Food of Love," and "Feasting and Fasting." Ancient Greeks and Romans, Sufi mystics, classical Chinese and Japanese, medieval Europeans, lusty seventeenth- and eighteenth-century English realists, comic Romantics (Byron, Hood, Thomas Moore), plenty of moderns, and song lyricists (Coward, Porter) all contribute, and despite the richness of the fare, you won't need a digestive. *Ray Olson*

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From the Inside Flap

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About the Author

Peter Washington is the editor of many of the Everyman's Library Pocket Poets, including *Love Poems*, and is the author of Madame Blavatsky's *Baboon: A History of the Mystics, Mediums, and Misfits Who Brought Spiritualism to America*.

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James Fong:

The book untitled Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: Poems About Food and Drink (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets) contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains your ex idea with easy technique. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read that. The book was published by famous author. The author provides you in the new time of literary works. You can read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice read.

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