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From Sappho to Shakespeare to Cole Porter—a marvelous and wide-ranging collection of classic gay and lesbian love poetry.

The poets represented here include Walt Whitman, Hart Crane, Gertrude Stein, Federico García Lorca, Djuna Barnes, Constantine Cavafy, Elizabeth Bishop, W. H. Auden, and James Merrill. Their poems of love are among the most perceptive, the most passionate, the wittiest, and the most moving we have. From Michelangelo's "Love Misinterpreted" to Noël Coward's "Mad About the Boy," from May Swenson's "Symmetrical Companion" to Muriel Rukeyser's "Looking at Each Other," these poems take on both desire and its higher power: love in all its tender or taunting variety.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"Longing," "Looking," "Loving," "Ecstasy," "Anxiety," "Aftermath" Academy of American Poets chancellor and Yale Review editor J.D. McClatchy (Twenty Questions, etc.) has sorted 144 poems by the above suggestive categories in Love Speaks Its Name: Gay and Lesbian Love Poems. This pocket "Everyman" edition includes Sappho, Whitman, Lorca, Djuna Barnes, Auden, Muriel Rukeyser, Frank O'Hara and many others.

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From the Inside Flap

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About the Author

J. D. McClatchy is the author of four books of poetry, two books of literary essays, and four opera libretti. He is editor of The Yale Review and a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.

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