



Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey

Hayden Carruth

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey

Hayden Carruth

Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey Hayden Carruth

Powerful new poems by one of North America's premier poets.

Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey Details

Date : Published April 1st 1996 by Copper Canyon Press

ISBN : 9781556591105

Author : Hayden Carruth

Format : Paperback 140 pages

Genre : Poetry

 [Download Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey Hayden Carruth

From Reader Review Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey for online ebook

Tim says

This was a National Book Award winner from 1996. It was given to me as a present, and I kept it at work, reading a poem here and there until I finished it. I would place this in the confessional school of poetry, and throw in dollops of aging romanticism and neo-hippie Gaia worship as well. But this sounds as if I am making fun of it, when in fact I enjoyed many of these.

Carruth lives in a house in the country - Vermont or Upstate N.Y. by the sound of things, and he writes about the snow and the trees, and his occasional dips in the wine jug and his love for his younger wife. A fully formed character appeared for me - sincere, soulful, and clever. He keeps an eye on nature and another on the clock, and he loves his mate with the dotting gratitude that an older man has for a younger woman. His poems consist mostly of short utterances, usually unadorned yet not free of craft and occasional humor. Most of these seemed designed to be heard rather than read, and that got me wondering whether I should go to poetry readings rather than read collections.

Masked says

look, get any hayden carruth you can get your hands on. his poems are better than anything you're reading. this particular book is a late one. he's old. missing more than he'd planned. it's wistful sometimes. still, the man can talk about a chainsaw or a horn and make you feel different inside than you did before you looked at his words. damn.

Phil Overeem says

A great collection. Thank you, Rex—I will chronologically backwards to his previous collection!

Penny says

3-1/2 stars

He writes poems of gardens and waters, of politics and places, of the mundane and the critical, and of love. But sometimes it seemed more that he was disgruntled and dissatisfied. I liked "Flying into St. Louis," "Isabel's Garden, May 14," "FAXES TO WILLIAM, #13" (which I have included below - a poem which I completely understand), and the poignant poem to his wife entitled "Auburn Poem." I am sure you will find some poems you like.

THIRTEEN

The fallen hibiscus flower
that was so erotic, intricate, and splendid
lay on the floor, a reddish
pulpy mess. I took it

to the container of unpleasantness
for the compost heap. Inevitably,
William, I thought of
all the poems I've written.

Ruth says

Straight, strong language full of deep meaning.

Alarie says

This review is more about personal taste than a criticism of Carruth's writing. He wrote accessible, narrative poetry, normally my favorite type. I just didn't engage with many of these poems. That may be because I was juggling a long volume of poems by Raymond Carver at the same time that I found much more appealing.

Many of Carruth's poems are touchingly sentimental about his late life marriage to a beautiful, younger woman, like this one

Cardinal

Strands of her red hair
sweat-stuck to her forehead
and a cardinal shrieks

in the dooryard. She is a poet
cooking supper on the hottest
afternoon of summer, toiling

in the book-lined kitchen.
What can an old man do
in return but make little

poems that will disappear
like the cardinal's shriek
when the night breeze rises?

Anthony says

Hayden Carruth's poems are some of the most unique I've read. He is a masterful storyteller and the depth of his poems reached me in such a way that I haven't experienced before. He's not like the quintessential American poet, with language riddled with roundabouts, but he is the quintessential American who happens to be a poet. I'm not going to lie and say that every poem is a hit, but there are multiple poems that are really tremendous.

Monica says

Damn fine verse. Damn good book of poetry. Decidedly older white dude writing. Old white dude's expertise in adherence to meter and syllabic count admirable. His tight free verse amazing. Cannot deny this one its fair due, which is top notch American poetry.

Phillip says

Starts powerfully and somewhat dark. Stark imagery. Theme of loss physical and mental pervades.

Easy for me to follow. Clear structure and few obscure lines or over haughty allusions.

3.5 / 5.0

Michael Palkowski says

Carruth consistently makes references to Homeric epics and other miscellaneous ancient literature, often in an idealized and romanticized way with allusions such as his brief and dreamy four liner, "Rubaiyat" where he sits on a pier with Omar Khayyám and Tu Fu, writing verses and cheering as they drop each verse down the river, or the wistful and impending fatalism of "Folk Song: On the Road Again", where he seems to channel Odysseus to take over from his own form, his own frailty and disintegration with the world, which is perfectly instantiated in the poems "February Morning", "Swept" and "April Clean-up". He channels the Tempest in "Solemnization" taking the role of Caliban, which has numerous textual significances that I won't disseminate here. Apollo is referenced and his writing in "Hyacinth Garden in Brooklyn" begins to suture the ancients with the present.

His intersectional affinity as someone intellectually full of vigor and creativity is contrasted with his impending death. Not only is he facing the decline of himself but his family, which is expressed beautifully in "Auburn Poem", where he discusses his daughter's battle with cancer, which could be contrasted with "Forty-Five" where he sketches out a brief narrative which essentially illuminates the ephemeral nature of life and actions within such a life. The salamanders couple and dart together belly to belly lazily, eventually detaching and later dieing insignificantly. The book is not mere melancholy however as Carruth is funny, witty, energetic and bold about his life throughout, he is prepared to try new things and experience the world around him instead of accepting his bodily stupor, as in "Saturday at the Border" where he experiments with villanelle meter or "Ecstasy" and "Wife Poem" which shows a man comfortable and very very happy.

Brian Wasserman says

allusion porn, mr carruth confesses his love of the canonical greats, poetry is too prosaic

Phil says

To hear this great poet, who died recently, read his work is like listening to the average American speak in poetic sentences about everyday life. Its jazz, pure jazz

Abby says

“Forty-Five”

When I was forty-five I lay for hours
beside a pool, the green hazy
springtime water, and watched
the salamanders coupling, how they drifted lazily,
their little hands floating before them,
aimlessly in and out of the shadows, fifteen
or twenty of them, and suddenly two
would dart together and clasp
one another belly to belly
the way we do, tender and vigorous, and then
would let go and drift away
at peace, lazily,
in the green pool that was their world
and for a while was mine.

Hayden Carruth wrestles with war and late-in-life love and drinking and woodland creatures in this charming, accessible and clean collection of his later poems.

Favorites

“Wife Poem”

“Birthday Cake”

“Quality of Wine”

“Resorts”

“Endnote”

“Forty-Five”

“Alteration”

Caleb says

Like scrambled eggs and whiskey, a Carruth poem is a hearty treatment for a hangover. These poems are gritty and witty, yet deeply sobering.

James says

At last I have found a poet who writes like I do! Carruth writes in an accessible voice that most of American poets seem to disdain. (Think John Ashbery here) Clear and direct generally, and yet his words may still take you places or surprise. Although, I have read much poetry, this is my first Carruth. I expect to order more. Do yourself a favor and see if this grizzled old man turns on a few light bulbs in your head.

A hard toss between 4 and 5 stars.
