



Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School

Georgia Heard , Naomi Shihab Nye (Foreword by)

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Fans of the best-selling *For the Good of the Earth and Sun* will applaud this sequel by beloved author Georgia Heard - an inspiring and practical handbook that celebrates the natural power of poetry to teach the essential tools of all writing.

Awakening the Heart explores how to cultivate the poet in every elementary and middle school student - through well-drawn examples, detailed exercises, creative projects, and down-to-earth classroom teachings. Along the way, we learn how to: create environments that encourage children to express their innate sense of wonder; introduce poetry that will engage them; and help children make the transition from reading and talking to writing.

Best of all, *Awakening the Heart* is filled with luminous poems - by children, famous poets, and Heard herself.

Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School Details

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From Reader Review Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School for online ebook

Miriam says

Heel inspirerend boek over hoe je poëzielessen kunt geven aan basisschoolkinderen.

Ik ben altijd van mening geweest dat poëzie leren waarderen wél met ieder kind kan, maar dat poëzie leren schrijven een brug te ver is. Dit boek kon wel eens het boek zijn dat me er van overtuigd heeft dat poëzie schrijven wel met ieder kind kan, respectvol, zonder forceren én zonder met opgelegde rijmschema's te werken of in sinterklaas-rijmpjes-gebied af te dwalen. Even een tijdje laten bezinken en dan nogmaals lezen. De andere tips voor poëzie lezen, ga ik meteen gebruiken in mijn dagelijkse lessen.

(Dit boek werd aangeraden in Nancie Atwell's *In the Middle - A Lifetime of Learning About Writing, Reading, and Adolescents.*)

Gabriel says

this book was healing.

Stephanie says

Teaching children (and yourself) to love and appreciate real poetry. Make a heart-map, and have kids do it too. This is definitely great for teachers or students who are intimidated by reading and writing good poetry.

Jean says

Reading this book supported work I was doing for my writing class. Although it was aimed at teaching young writers, much of it was inspiring and applicable to any age group. It provided insights to poetry that I had not considered, as well as practical and useful lessons.

Joy says

In the follow up book to *For the Good of the Earth and Sun*, Georgia Heard gives specific lesson ideas for teaching poetry in the classroom. While her first book was more of an overview, this book launches into specifics like poetry centers.

Krista says

There were some good ideas here for sharing/teaching poetry in the elementary classroom. Not one I would buy necessarily, but I did take notes for the things that I would like to implement next year.

Stephanie says

In *Awakening the Heart, Heard* proposes a specific model for reading and writing poetry, one that leans heavily on the workshop model. I was surprised by how little Heard drew on or acknowledged other researchers and writers in her field. She never mentioned Nancie Atwell, although her ideas about keeping notebooks and mapping one's heart seem to me to be pure Atwell. Many of Heard's ideas felt familiar to me – they were not new, but rather, re-presentations.

Kim Luke says

read for teaching course at Rider U

Kim says

An AMAZING book on teaching poetry, respecting children's voices, and opening your own heart to a more poetic way of seeing the world. I loved Georgia's ideas for hooking children into poetry and used her book as inspiration this year to great success. I met Georgia at a conference this past winter and couldn't hear enough of her. She's inspiring in print and in person.

Shannon says

So inspiring and useful. I can't wait to teach poetry this year!

Jacqueline says

I would recommend this book as a text to any classroom teacher. It brims with passionate reasons to write poetry and should resonant with all poets, budding and seasoned.

Best to share this book in its own words:

p. 2 "When we are told in dozens of ways that our lives don't matter, a poetry workshop may be one of the last places you can go where your life still matters."

p. 9 "An important part of writing poetry is being able to "crack-open" overused and abstract words and sentences such as "It was a nice day" or "She was very nice" and find the image inside."

p. 19 "W read poetry from this deep hunger to know ourselves and the world."

p. 39 "Reading poetry is a social activity--a way of helping us hold hands with strangers who have more in

common with us than we know. Poetry can give our students company and make them feel like they're not so alone."

p.116 "It's the work of knowing ourselves from the inside--rather than from the outside--sharpening our inner vision that lies at the heart of writing poetry."

p.118 "Poetry has the power to change us, by helping us sift through the layers of our lives in search of our own truths and our own poems."

Debbie says

Text read for my Teaching Poetry course I am taking. Easy to read with lots of great practical ideas that can be used in the classroom. Loved the student examples of all grades throughout the book.

Relyn says

I have been a teacher for 13 years with 2 1/2 years of education classes before that. I say that only to indicate that I have been reading "How to Teach" books for 15 years. None, and I do mean NONE have ever come close to this book in either quality or heart. None have impacted me so strongly.

If I had lots of money, I would buy a copy for all my teacher friends. Together we would start a poetry revolution in Missouri.

I have long been passionate about poetry. See my blog, here: <http://www.comesitbymyfire.blogspot.c...> for an example. This book gave me a clear blueprint and additional motivation to help me be intentional and excellent as I proceed to fill my students' hearts with a passion for poetry.

Mercedes says

Good ideas for making poetry meaningful and bringing it to life in the classroom. Teachers at my school were able to use ideas from this book to write an entire poetry unit for middle school students.

Mercy says

Great ideas for making poetry meaningful and bringing it to life in the classroom. Teachers at my school and I created an entire poetry unit for middle school students based on the ideas in this book.
