
The Essential W S Merwin

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Reversible Monuments

Garden Time

W.S. Merwin: Collected Poems 1952-1993 (LOA #240)

Collected Poems 1952-1993

The Moon Before Morning
The Lice
W. S. Merwin

*The Essential W S
Merwin*

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One Big Self Shambhala Publications
US Poet Laureate W.S. Merwin was arguably the most influential American poet of the last half-century - an artist who transfigured and reinvigorated the vision of poetry for our time. Bloodaxe published his *Selected Poems* in 2007. At 82, Merwin produced 'his best book in a decade - and one of the best outright' (*Publishers Weekly*), and a collection which has won him his second Pulitzer Prize in the US and a Poetry Book

Society Recommendation in the UK. The nuanced mysteries of light, darkness, presence, and memory are central themes in his latest collection. 'I have only what I remember,' Merwin admits, and his memories are focused and profound-the distinct qualities of autumn light, a conversation with a boyhood teacher, well-cultivated loves, and 'our long evenings and astonishment'. In 'Photographer', Merwin presents the scene where armloads of antique glass negatives are saved from a dumpcart by 'someone who understood'. In 'Empty Lot', Merwin evokes a child lying in bed at night, listening to the muffled

dynamite blasts of coal mining near his home, and we can't help but ask: How shall we mine our lives?

Bright Moon, White Clouds Infobase Publishing

A literary cookbook that celebrates food and poetry, two of life's essential ingredients. In the same way that salt seasons ingredients to bring out their flavors, poetry seasons our lives; when celebrated together, our everyday moments and meals are richer and more meaningful. The twenty-five inspiring poems in this book—from such poets as Marge Piercy, Louise Glück, Mark Strand, Mary Oliver, Billy Collins, Jane Hirshfield—are accompanied by seventy-five recipes that bring the richness of words to life in our kitchen, on our plate, and through our palate. *Eat This Poem*

opens us up to fresh ways of accessing poetry and lends new meaning to the foods we cook.

Garden Time New Directions Publishing

The variety of contemporary American poetry leaves many readers overwhelmed. The critic, scholar, and poet Stephen Burt sets out to help. Beginning in the early 1980s, where critical consensus ends, he presents 60 poems, each with an original essay explaining how the poem works, why it matters, and how it speaks to other parts of art and culture.

The Invention of Solitude Univ. Press of Mississippi

America today is a mobile society. Many of us travel abroad, and few of us live in the towns or cities where we were born. It wasn't always so. "Travel from

America to Europe became a commonplace, an ordinary commodity, some time ago, but when I first went such departure was still surrounded with an atmosphere of adventure and improvisation, and my youth and inexperience and my all but complete lack of money heightened that vertiginous sensation," writes W. S. Merwin. Twenty-one, married and graduated from Princeton, the poet embarked on his first visit to Europe in 1948 when life and traditions on the continent were still adjusting to the postwar landscape. *Summer Doorways* captures Merwin at a similarly pivotal time before he won the Yale Younger Poets Award in 1952 for his first book, *A Mask for Janus*—the moment was, as the author writes, "an entire age just before

it was gone, like a summer."

The Pupil Faber & Faber

The first complete bilingual translation of the Buson Kushu—a collection of haiku that is an essential volume of Asian literature

A Mask for Janus Library of America Merwin has created a special voice, unique in all of American poetry. It comes through in this selection Merwin has made from 10 of his previous books, beginning with "A Mask for Janus" and ending with "Opening the Hand." Other selections include "Lemuel's Blessing," "Air," "The River Bees," and "Fly." In "The Coin," considered to be one of his best poems, Merwin re-creates an entire fair, depicting tents, animals, flowers, and three turtledoves with a coin in the grain at the bottom of their cage. ISBN

0-689-11970-4: \$22.95.

Collected Poems 1996-2011 New York :
Atheneum

An essential addition to every shelf of
20-century poetry.

Sun at Midnight Copper Canyon Press

Late in life our most revered poet
delivers a verdant collection that rivals
the best from his storied career.

The Vixen Shambhala Publications

In luscious and purposeful language,
W.S. Merwin's new poems examine our
essential relationships with the natural
world."

Conversations with W. S. Merwin

Springer Nature

Oracular and elegant, W. S. Merwin's
poetry reveals a heightened sense of
what is essential to human
consciousness: the fragile framing of

nature, the mysteries of memory and
perception, the inescapable fact of our
mortality. In a career spanning seven
decades- from his brilliant emergence as
the winner of the Yale Younger Poets'
Prize in 1952 to his recent term as U.S.
Poet Laureate-he has fashioned a poetics
unmistakably his own, marked by a
stripped-down, unpunctuated style that
foregrounds his responsiveness, spiritual
insights, and facility with unadorned,
elemental language.

Desire and Infinity in W. S. Merwin's

Poetry Harvard University Press

Conversations with W. S. Merwin is the
first collection of interviews with former
United States Poet Laureate W. S.
Merwin (b. 1927). Spanning almost six
decades of conversations, the collection
touches on such topics as Merwin's early

influences (Robert Graves and Ezra Pound), his location within the twin poles of Walt Whitman and Henry David Thoreau, and his extraordinary work as a translator, as well as his decades-long interest in environmental conservation. Anticipating the current sustainability movement and the debates surrounding major and minor literatures, Merwin was, and still is, a visionary. He is among the most distinguished poets, translators, and thinkers in the United States. A major link between the period of literary modernism and its contemporary extensions, Merwin has been a force in American letters for many decades, and his translations from the Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, and other languages have earned him unanimous praise and admiration. Merwin also

wrote at the forefront of literature's environmental advocacy and early on articulated concerns about ecology and sustainability. Conversations with W. S. Merwin offers insight into the various dimensions of Merwin's thought by treating his interviews as a self-standing category in his oeuvre. More than casual narratives that interpret the occasional poem or relay an occasional experience, they afford literary and cultural historians a view into the larger throughlines of Merwin's thinking.

Miscellaneous Works by W.S. Merwin
Copper Canyon Press

This edited collection explores the work of highly awarded and twice American Poet Laureate W. S. Merwin. Spanning Merwin's early career, his mid-career success, his Hawaiian epic, his eco-

poetry, his lesser-known later poetry and the influence of Buddhism on his work, the volume offers new perspectives on Merwin as a major poet. Exploring his works across the twentieth and twenty-first century, this collection presents Merwin as a necessary and contemporary poet. It emphasizes contemporary readings of Merwin as an environmental advocate, showing how his poetry seeks to help each reader re-establish an intimate relationship with the natural world. It also highlights how Merwin's work presents our place in history as a pivotal moment of transition into a new era of international cooperation. This volume both celebrates his life and writing and takes scholarship on his work forward into the new century.

Reading W.S. Merwin in a New Century
LSU Press

This major collection, by a major American poet who has been awarded the Marshall, Bollingen, Pulitzer, and other important prizes for mastery of his art, is concerned with the people, countryside, and creatures of southwest France. "Merwin writes, " J.D. McClatchy has said in THE NEW YORKER, "with one of the most distinctive and original voices in American poetry."

Love Poems Knopf Publishing Group

Here is the second volume in a definitive, career-spanning two-volume edition of the poems of the former U.S. Poet Laureate, which is also available as a deluxe boxed set, *The Collected Poems of W. S. Merwin* (described below). Oracular and elegant, W. S. Merwin's

poetry reveals a heightened sense of what is essential to human consciousness: the fragile framing of nature, the mysteries of memory and perception, the inescapable fact of our mortality. In a career spanning seven decades— from his brilliant emergence as the winner of the Yale Younger Poets' Prize in 1952 to his recent term as U.S. Poet Laureate—he has fashioned a poetics unmistakably his own, marked by a stripped-down, unpunctuated style that foregrounds his responsiveness, spiritual insights, and facility with unadorned, elemental language. Now, with this two-volume edition, Merwin becomes only the second living poet to have his work collected by The Library of America. Here are such landmark books as his debut volume *A Mask for Janus*

(1952), which shows the young poet engaged in a fruitful dialogue with Auden and Berryman; *The Lice* (1967), with its impassioned political poems about the Vietnam War and ecological catastrophe; *The Vixen* (1996), which offers vivid recollections of southwestern France; the epic verse novel *The Folding Cliffs* (2008), set in nineteenth-century Hawaii; and *The Shadow of Sirius* (2008), with its "late poems / that are made of words / that have come the whole way / they have been there." LIBRARY OF AMERICA is an independent nonprofit cultural organization founded in 1979 to preserve our nation's literary heritage by publishing, and keeping permanently in print, America's best and most significant writing. The Library of America series includes more than 300

volumes to date, authoritative editions that average 1,000 pages in length, feature cloth covers, sewn bindings, and ribbon markers, and are printed on premium acid-free paper that will last for centuries.

W.S. Merwin Catapult

A collection of poems, satires, and psalms by Thomas Wyatt includes "My Lute Awake," "Who so List to Hount," and others

Selected Translations Library of America
W. S. Merwin is widely acknowledged as one of the finest living poets in English. Less well known is the power and range of his work in prose. For his first new prose collection in more than ten years, *The Ends of the Earth*, Merwin has gathered eight essays that show the breadth of his imagination and

sympathy. A memoir of George Kirstein, publisher of "The Nation," stands alongside one of Sydney Parkinson, explorer, naturalist and artist on Captain James Cook's Endeavour. A wonderful portrait of the French explorer of Hawai'i, Jean-Francois Galaup de La Perouse is followed by a visit to the Neanderthal skeleton of Boffia Bonneval. There are treks through the Hawaiian forests, to the Holy Mountain of Athos, and with the butterflies in Mexico. For this magical and wondrous journey we have as our guide the excited and concise poet-naturalist, writing at the top of his form.

The Poem Is You Knopf

A sweeping and exhaustive overview of contemporary Mexican poetry.

Eat This Poem Catapult

“Wright has found a way to wed fragments of an iconic America to a luminously strange idiom, eerie as a tin whistle, which she uses to evoke the haunted quality of our carnal existence.”—The New Yorker Inspired by numerous visits inside Louisiana state prisons—where MacArthur Fellow C.D. Wright served as a “factotum” for a portrait photographer—One Big Self bears witness to incarcerated men and women and speaks to the psychic toll of protracted time passed in constricted space. It is a riveting mosaic of distinct voices, epistolary pieces, elements from a moralistic board game, road signage, prison data, inmate correspondence, and “counts” of things—from baby’s teeth to chigger bites: Count your folding money Count the times you said you wouldn’t

go back Count your debts Count the roaches when the light comes on Count your kids after the housefire One Big Self—originally published as a large-format limited edition that featured photographs and text—was selected by The New York Times and The Village Voice as a notable book of the year. This edition features the poem exclusively. C.D. Wright is the author of ten books of poetry, including several collaborations with photographer Deborah Luster. She is a professor at Brown University. *The Essential W.S. Merwin* Knopf Contains periodical issues in which the author's works appeared. [W.S. Merwin: Collected Poems 1996-2011 \(LOA #241\)](#) Bloodaxe Books Fiftieth Anniversary edition of a revolutionary book that still stuns with

its prophetic, political, and stylistic force

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