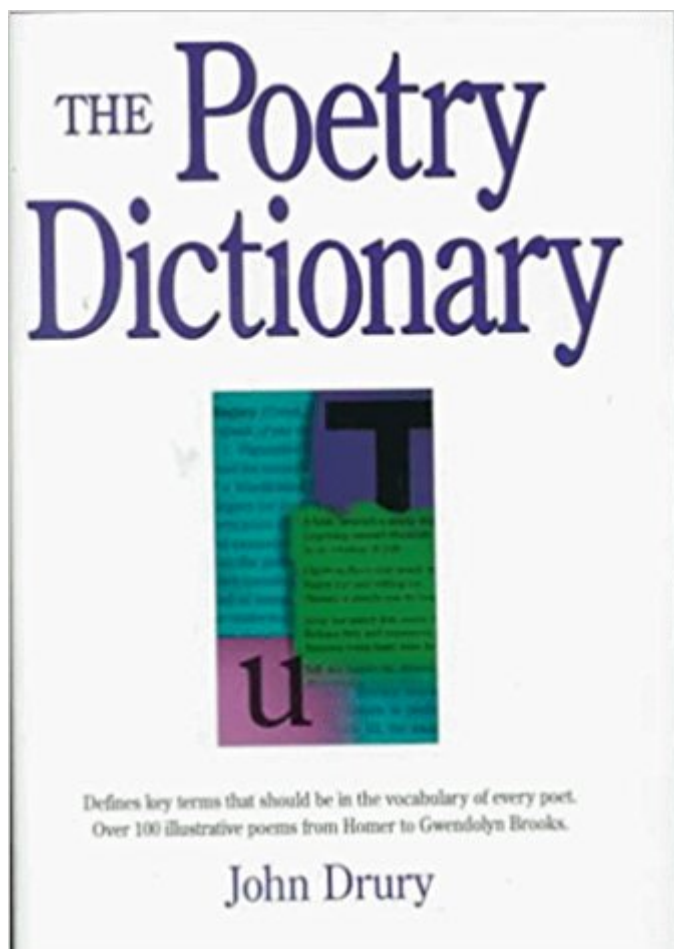


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# The Poetry Dictionary



## Synopsis

This compendium of definitions, thorough descriptions and examples of poetry clarifies the rich and complex language of poetry writing.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Story Press; 1st edition (September 15, 1995)

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## Customer Reviews

John Drury's Poetry Dictionary is no dreary list of defined terms to cram for your poetry final. It's a work of art in itself, written in Drury's engagingly lucid prose, liberally spiced with examples from the world's best poets. Curious about sequence? Drury gives a clear definition of the term, followed by Katha Pollitt's "Vegetable Poems" in sequence 1-5. Forgotten the rules of the villanelle? Drury explains the form, gives a little historic background, and presents examples by Jean Passerat, Edwin Arlington Robinson, Dylan Thomas, Weldon Kees, and James Cummins. Never has a poetry dictionary been so browsable, so erudite, and so engaging. --Stephanie Gold

John Drury is a professor of English and creative writing. His poems have appeared in many reviews and publications. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Asked to provide a reference book for a grad stu who lacked acquaintance with poetry, but was taking a first course in it, I bought and read several of the highest rated books. John Drury's was far and away the best, providing an alphabetical arrangement of glossary, and definitions supported by multiple, clear (and pleasingly unusual) examples. Prosody, always a tricky subject, made as clear

as possible, contemporary song lyrics (see SONG) treated with intelligent respect -- it also simmers with an infectious delight in all kinds of poems. I bought another copy for the student, so I could dip often into this book for pleasure, as well as enlightenment.

No, really I did. I purchased this book when I was in college and it was an amazing writing resource. I thought I'd lost the book so I ordered a new one and was happy to share this with a fellow writer once I located my original copy. The definitions are very concise and the examples that are given are discussed/referenced appropriately within each section. The most challenging thing about this book is finding a copy.

Its not quite what I expected and I am not sure if I am displeased with it. But I really enjoyed Creating Poetry. Also on both these books the delivery was quick.

Love the black tabs. So delightfully easy to use. Great examples throughout make this a nice anthology too! I have Dana Gioia's (which she edited w/ Michael Palma) "New Italian Poets" on my buy next list to grab!

This book is an enjoyable education, in addition to an excellent reference book. It's a pleasure just to read through, a treasure trove of interesting information.

Best dictionary of poetry to date. Be warned though, its explanations are often not very deep. This is entirely consistent with the purpose of a dictionary.

I took a poetry class and the instructor recommended this book. I suppose it could be read straight through, but I prefer to either browse and see what term or topic serendipitously pops up or look up something specific that I want to know more about. Everything is clearly explained and examples are often included. A very handy book for anyone interested in poetry.

Drury's book is a practical and useful book for not only writing poetry, but for teaching poetry. His definitions and examples are practical, clear, and unaffected, unlike some of the other more convoluted handbooks. A definite must have for any poet or teacher of poetry

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