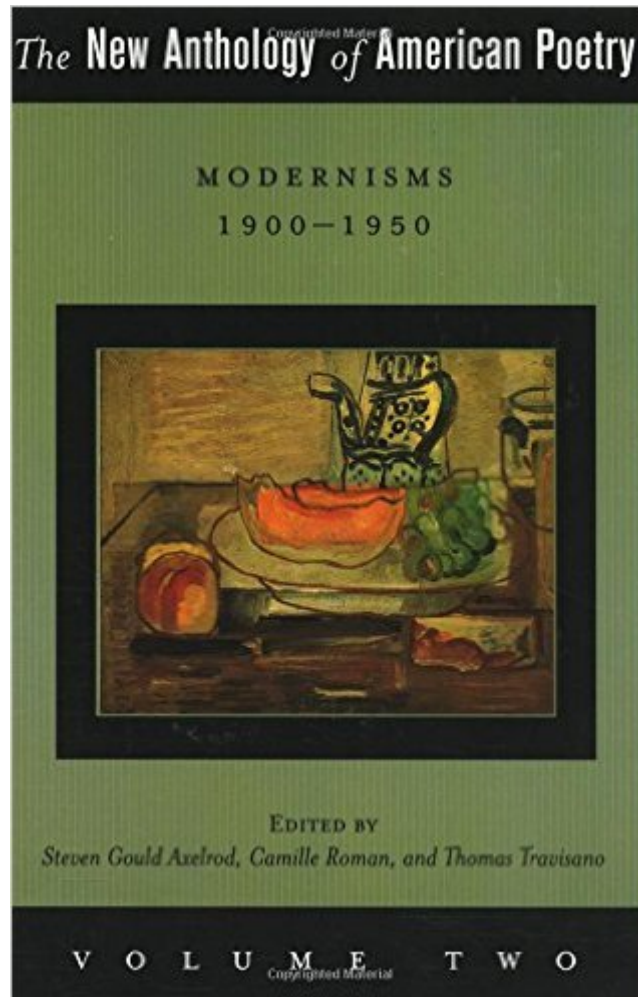


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The New Anthology Of American Poetry, Vol. 2: Modernisms, 1900-1950



Synopsis

Bringing together fifty years of exciting modernisms, *The New Anthology of American Poetry*, Volume 2 includes over 600 poems by sixty-five American poets writing in the period between 1900 and 1950. The most recognized poets of the era, such as William Carlos Williams, Ezra Pound, Wallace Stevens, T. S. Eliot, H. D., Gertrude Stein, Robert Frost, Marianne Moore, Hart Crane, and Langston Hughes are represented, along with many other Harlem Renaissance poets, women poets, immigrant and working-class poets, imagists, and objectivists. It is also the first modernist anthology to include poems and songs from popular culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This poetry anthology contains a wide variety of authors, ranging from the most commonly read (like T. S. Eliot and Robert Frost) to lesser-known poets. In particular, Jewish Americans are represented well, as are black poets. There is also a wide variety of styles, ranging from the minimalist objectivist poems to the more traditional verse poems. Some approaches will resonate with you more than others, but I think the diversity is a huge plus overall. Every poet is introduced with a brief but informative biography. Some essays on poetry and art written by the poets make their way into the anthology as well. The margins are large enough that, for those of us who take notes right in the book, there will be plenty of room. However, there are two frustrating drawbacks to the anthology. For some bizarre reason, the lines of the poems are not numbered. This glaring oversight is

especially frustrating when writing academic papers, as citations often demand the line number. Have fun citing long poems like "The Waste Land." Also, I sometimes found the footnotes to be inconsistent. At times, obvious things had footnotes explaining them, while other times I found myself wishing for a quick footnote to help me out. I, personally, am not a huge fan of modern American poetry, but this is a comprehensive anthology for any reader, whether you're in academia or not.

I read this book in college because it was required reading for my lit class. I typically do not enjoy poetry, so when I saw this on the required reading list I just about choked. Though I can't say that it has made a poetry lover out of me, I do admit that this is by far one of the best books I have ever read....poetry or not! The selection of poets is pretty comprehensive and the poems featured by those poets are beautifully selected to help show all aspects of the poet's writing. Each poet has his/her own section, the beginning of which has a brief biography of the poet. There are copious footnotes, explanations after the poems, and bibliographies for further reading. For someone who is not a poet aficionado, this collection is simply perfection! It helped guide me to secondary sources for writing papers and the brief explanatory paragraphs at the end of the poems helped to shed some light on difficult poems without dictating one meaning. Though I am no longer in college, years away now, I find myself going back to this book again and again. I have purchased other collections but none of them have struck me the way that one does. I have encouraged others to read it, whether they are poetry fans or not, and have been met with the same response: this anthology is superb! I have not had a chance to read the other anthologies in the collection, but if they are anything like this one...I'll take the whole set!

The collaborative editorial effort of Steven Gould Axelrod, Camille Roman, and Thomas Travisano, *The New Anthology Of American Poetry: Volume Two, Modernisms 1900-1950* compiles over 600 poems by sixty-five American poets from the era of 1900 to 1950, including T. S. Eliot, Gertrude Stein, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, and many more. Offering a diversity of styles, and themes, this second volume of *The New Anthology Of American Poetry* also presents introductions, bibliographies, biographies, up-to-date footnotes and endnotes, and more to assist the reader in both understanding poetry and find more works by a given author. Very highly recommended both as an introduction to early twentieth-century American poetry and as a broad smorgasbord to experience and learn from a panoply of magnificent classic works.

Edited by Steven Gould Axelrod, Thomas Travisano, and Camille Roman, this anthology is a joy. It will make you want to read--and re-read. The editors, not limited by any one canon, worked together to present the range of American poetry of the period. The anthology lays out the richness of the "modernist" American literary heritage with care and love. There are generous selections from a range of the "modernist" writers in addition to surprising selections from immigrant and native american poetry and from popular song. The introductions and notes are thoughtful and deeply intelligent. This anthology promises to be a classic.

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