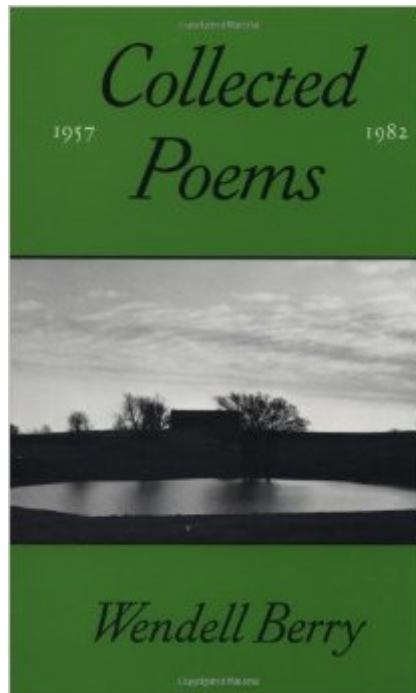


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# The Collected Poems Of Wendell Berry, 1957-1982



## Synopsis

A longtime spokesman for conservation, common sense, and sustainable agriculture, Wendell Berry writes eloquently in several styles and methods. Among other literary forms, he is a poet of great clarity and sureness. His love of language and his care for its music are matched only by his fidelity to the subjects he has written of during his first twenty-five years of work: land and nature, the family and community, tradition as the groundwork for life and culture. His graceful elegies sit easily alongside lyrics of humor and biting satire. Husbandman and husband, philosopher and Mad Farmer, he writes of values that endure, of earthy truths and universal imagery. His vision is one of hope and memory, of determination and faithfulness. For this far-reaching yet portable volume, Berry has chosen nearly two hundred poems from his previous eight collections.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Wendell Berry's influence seeps through and sustains our land. I had read his stories of Port William. I was led to this book of poetry by a poem's mention in the Afterword in William Greider's "The Soul of Capitalism". In the latest issue of "The Land Report", Wes Jackson quotes from a letter from Wendell Berry that 22 years later led to a conference titled "Toward an Ignorance-Based Worldview". Some of the poems in this book describe the wonder of and need to fight for true everyday love. They are some of the most moving love poems I have ever read. Many talk about the land and the continuity of its people and history that comprise a place and community. No one speaks better on this topic. Then there are the Mad Farmer Liberation Front poems. Read this one

and head out in a new direction. Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front Love the quick profit, the annual raise, vacation with pay. Want more of everything ready-made. Be afraid, to know your neighbors and to die. And you will have a window in your head. Not even your future will be a mystery any more. Your mind will be punched in a card and shut away in a little drawer. When they want you to buy something they will call you. When they want you to die for profit they will let you know. So, friends, every day do something that won't compute. Love the Lord. Love the world. Work for nothing. Take all that you have and be poor. Love someone who does not deserve it. Denounce the government and embrace the flag. Hope to live in that free republic for which it stands.

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