



Glitter in the Blood: A Poet's Manifesto for Better, Braver Writing

Mindy Nettifee

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You do not want to write good poems. You want to write great poems. You want to write poems that challenge, inspire and awe. You want to write poems that forever alter your audience, that forever alter yourself. Those poems take guts. **Glitter in the Blood: A Poet's Manifesto to Better, Braver Writing** will put you in constant contact with your guts. Pushcart prize nominated and highly accomplished performance poet Mindy Nettifee is not going to lead you step-by-step up a how-to staircase. With this collection of essays, prompts and exercises, Mindy is giving you the wrench you need to open up the blood and let it flow into your writing.

Glitter in the Blood: A Poet's Manifesto for Better, Braver Writing Details

Date : Published September 15th 2012 by Write Bloody Publishing

ISBN : 9781938912016

Author : Mindy Nettifee

Format : Paperback 222 pages

Genre : Poetry, Language, Writing, Nonfiction

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From Reader Review *Glitter in the Blood: A Poet's Manifesto for Better, Braver Writing* for online ebook

Antonia says

This book has been highly rated on both Goodreads and Amazon. But sorry, I just couldn't finish it. The voice and tone bugged me throughout, as well as the endless digressions (tell-all self-therapy sessions), the poetry itself. Sounds like a personal journal.

Some of the chapters ended with a summary in the form of bulleted points. These are often really good. I marked some and will return to them. But I found it tedious to read the whole chapter.

And there are just too many irritating mistakes. Most writers know the difference between its and it's. Most writers know the difference between wreck and wreak (as in wreak havoc). Most writers know that "I" does not follow a preposition (it's "for me"). And there other misplaced apostrophes and poor grammar ("less opportunities"). I'm feeling like a curmudgeon, but sheesh, this is a book on writing. I've never read a book with so many question marks. Also tedious.

The Secret Poetess says

I am sure that I will refer to this tome time and again, really thoughtfully written and an excellent refreshing read. An original turn of phrase, coupled with inspiration. Yes, I really liked this!

Murray Thomas says

The best book I have ever read on writing poetry.

Patrick says

A plethora of ideas on how to be creative when writing, but the tone and prose comes across as frenetic and scattered.

Ms says

Very informative

Regan says

I so appreciate people who can turn a seemingly invisible process into something accessible and concrete

(well...as concrete as poetry writing can be). I'm just bursting with ideas and feel so lucky to have read this.

Admittedly, Mindy does get a bit long winded in parts, but I found it more endearing than distracting. Like watching a good friend get swept up in telling a story.

Sarmatia S says

?

Ronnie Stephens says

Holy bowl of awesome sauce, this book is incredible!

I've read countless books on poetic form and theory in various undergraduate and graduate writing workshops. I did a six-week retreat in Ireland with some of the best writers across two continents. I've picked the brains of nearly every professional writer I've ever met. The simple truth is that this is the best book on writing poetry in print. Mindy doesn't just unpack the writing process, she sets the curtain on fire and shatters the looking glass; she tears down the fourth wall.

Glitter in the Blood is not a one-dimensional manifesto of one woman's journey into the poetic. It's an unbridled and vulnerable dialogue with the reader. Mindy walks the reader through every poem, from prompt to brainstorming to first draft to revision. She invites you into the thought process and, at times, leaves an actual map of her cognitive leaps for you to follow. I came away with a better understanding of writing, but also a better understanding of myself. This is more than a book on writing - you'll learn fascinating tidbits about feminism, coming of age in a patriarchal society, the economy, and plenty more.

Not convinced? Consider this: I'm a public school teacher at one of the poorest schools in our state, and I'm already taking the steps to buy a class set with my own money just to get this book into my students' hands.

Don't just get better at poems. Get better at life. Get this book.

Linda Reed says

Glitter in the Blood specifically addresses poetry however the author provides insights and ideas that will impact my fiction writing as well as my thoughts on my place in the universe. Thank you Mindy!

Sandra says

Mindy Nettifee, a wonderful poet and performer, is the sore aching earth's gift to the sore aching writer. She writes with bone-blood honesty (and plenty of glitter!). She tosses in erudite references, and adds examples from her own work. This is knowledge hard-won and generously given.

Her how-to-write-and-not-die-in-the-attempt book is eminently rewarding, encouraging and inspiring. I teach

a Creative Writing class and had this been published sooner, I would have made it required reading for my students.

Sue says

Consider this the anti-establishment poetry manual, akin to John Muir's underground VW repair manual, *How to Keep Your Volkswagen Alive*, that was popular back in the '70s. While we get the usual advice about finding ideas, metaphors, forms, and showing not telling, this is the most unusual poetry-writing advice book I have ever read. Nettifee, poet and performance artist, speaks directly to us in a casual tone that breaks through the walls to let us into the process of writing this book while she's writing it. The sample poems she uses here are her own. She shows us why and how she wrote them as she did. The language is casual, a little crazy, laden with capital letters and italics, and occasionally not grammatically correct. She threads in references to songs, movies, and books, as well as bits of astronomy, psychology, and the meanings of Tarot cards. The chapters include assignments that seem a little nuts, but they're designed to open up all the walls and let your true poet-self come tumbling out. It works, and for once poetry is FUN. I devoured this book in a few days. I loved it.
