

Selected Poetry of Yehuda Amichai

By Yehuda Amichai


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Yehuda Amichai is Israel's most popular poet as well as a literary figure of international reputation. In this revised and expanded collection, renowned translators Chana Bloch and Stephen Mitchell have selected Amichai's most beloved and enduring poems, including forty new poems from his recent work.

from *Tourists*: Once I was sitting on the steps near the gate at David's Citadel and I put down my two heavy baskets beside me. A group of tourists stood there around their guide, and I became their point of reference. "You see that man over there with the baskets? A little to the right of his head there's an arch from the Roman period. A little to the right of his head." "But he's moving, he's moving!" I said to myself: Redemption will come only when they are told, "Do you see that arch over there from the Roman period? It doesn't matter, but near it, a little to the left and then down a bit, there's a man who has just bought fruit and vegetables for his family."

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Selected Poetry of Yehuda Amichai By Yehuda Amichai Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Pieces of laundry hanging from Jerusalem's rooftops serve as signposts distinguishing Arabs from Jews; Amichai's brief lyric crystallizing their mutual hatred would heal the rift, if words could. Israel's best-known poet sifts centuries of Jewish experience in firsthand impressions of his troubled land; moreover, he makes the particular universal. In their remarkable translations, Bloch and Mitchell bring over the poet's healing, wise voice in a modern American idiom that nevertheless remains true to his biblical and cultural roots. Amichai circumscribes the world in a few lines; pain, joy, sorrow, hope press against the reader with the felt weight of experience. Love poems are shot through with an ironic awareness that love is no panacea. In their richness of history, their ever-present political dimension, their sharing of a common frame of reference with their audience, these poems are miles above almost anything in contemporary American verse.

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Review

"For sheer energy of imagination, for the constantly renewed sense of poetry's ability to engage reality, Amichai has no close competitors on the Israeli scene, and perhaps only a few worldwide." -- *Robert Alter, New York Times Magazine*

1924

1978 Reunion Of Palmach Veterans At Ma'ayan Harod

Advice For Good Love

All These Make A Dance Rhythm

Almost A Love Poem

And As Far As Abu Ghosh

And That Is Your Glory

An Arab Shepherd Is Searching For His Goat On Mount Zion

As For The World

At The Beach

At The Maritime Museum

At The Monastery Of Latroun

At The Seashore

Autobiography, 1952

Autumn Is Near And The Memory Of My Parents

Autumn Rain In Tel Aviv

Ballad In The Streets Of Buenos Aires

Ballad Of The Washed Hair

Before

Beginning Of Autumn In The Hills Of Ephraim

The Body Is The Cause Of Love

The Box

A Bride Without A Dowry

The Bull Returns

A Child Is Something Else Again

Children's Procession

The Course Of A Life

The Diameter Of The Bomb

A Dog After Love
Ecology Of Jerusalem
Elegy
Elegy On An Abandoned Village
The Elegy On The Lost Child
End Of Summer In The Judean Mountains
An Eternal Window
The Eve Of Rosh Hashanah
Evidence
Fall In Connecticut
Farewell
Field Of Sunflowers
First Rain On A Burned Car
A Flock Of Sheep Near The Airport
For My Birthday
Forgetting Someone
From In A Right Angle: A Cycle Of Quatrains
From Summer Or Its End
From The Book Of Esther I Filtered The Sediment
From We Loved Here
Gifts Of Love
God Has Pity On Kindergarten Children
A Great Tranquillity: Questions And Answers
The Greatest Desire
Half The People In The World
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Huleikat--the Third Poem About Dicky
I Feel Just Fine In My Pants
I Guard The Children
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I've Grown Very Hairy
Ibn Gabirol
In A Leap Year
In The Full Severity Of Mercy
In The Garden, At The White Table
In The Middle Of This Century
In The Morning It Was Still Night
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Jasmine

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Jerusalem Is Full Of Used Jews
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Jerusalem, 1985
Jews In The Land Of Israel
Kibbutz Gevaram
The Last Word Is The Captain
Late Marriage
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A Letter Of Recommendation
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Lost Objects
Love Is Finished Again
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A Luxury
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Mayor
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My Father In A White Space Suit
My Mother Comes From The Days
My Mother Died On Shavuot
National Thoughts
Near The Wall Of A House
North Of Beersheba
North Of San Francisco
Not Like A Cypress
Now In The Storm
Now She's Breathing
Now The Lifeguards Have All Gone Home
Of Three Or Four In A Room
On Mount Muhraha
On Some Other Planet You May Be Right
On The Day I Left
On The Day My Daughter Was Born No One Died
Orchard
A Pace Like That
The Parents Left The Child
A Pity. We Were Such A Good Invention
The Place Where We Are Right
Poem For Arbor Day
Poem Without An End
Poems For A Woman
A Precise Woman
Psalm
A Quiet Joy
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To Carry The Weight Of Heavy Buttocks
To My Love, Combing Her Hair
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Try To Remember Some Details
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The Visit Of The Queen Of Sheba
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When I Banged My Head On The Door
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Yehuda Ha-levi
Yom Kippur
You Are So Small And Slight In The Rain
You Can Rely On Him
You Mustn't Show Weakness
You Too Got Tired
I've Grown Very Hairy
-- *Table of Poems from Poem Finder®*

Language Notes

Text: English, Hebrew (translation)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Elliott Salazar:

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