

Books of Forms

A partial guide to guides to poetic craft*

Made for the craft books panel at the twentieth West Chester University Poetry Conference

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*In the sense of both *incomplete* and *affectionate*. Of the many prosody-oriented guides and anthologies, here are a few favorites.

Craft guides

Boland, Eavan, and Mark Strand, eds. *The Making of a Poem: A Norton Anthology of Poetic Forms*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2000.

Corn, Alfred. *The Poem's Heartbeat: A Manual of Prosody*. Brownsville, OR: Story Line Press, 1997.

Deutsche, Babette. *Poetry Handbook: A Dictionary of Terms*. 1957. Fourth edition. New York, NY: Harper Perennial, 2009.

Finch, Annie. *A Poet's Ear: A Handbook of Meter and Form*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2013.

Hollander, John. *Rhyme's Reason: A Guide to English Verse*. 1981. Third edition. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2001.

Kennedy, X. J., and Dana Gioia. *An Introduction to Poetry*. 1966. Thirteenth edition. New York, NY, Longman, 2009.

Kinzie, Mary. *A Poet's Guide to Poetry*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1999.

Steele, Timothy. *All the Fun's in How You Say a Thing: An Explanation of Meter and Versification*. Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 1999.

Dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other such volumes

Drury, John. *The Poetry Dictionary*. Second edition. Cincinnati, OH: Writers Digest Books, 2005.

Finch, Annie, and Kathrine Varnes. *An Exaltation of Forms*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2002.

Greene, Roland, et al., eds. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. 1974. Fourth edition. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012.

Hirsch, Edward. *A Poet's Glossary*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014.

Padgett, Ron, ed. *The Teachers and Writers Handbook of Poetic Forms*. 1987. Second edition. New York, NY: Teachers and Writers Collaborative, 2000.

Phillips, Anna Lena. *A Pocket Book of Forms*. Durham, NC: To Do in the New Year, 2013.

Turco, Lewis. *The Book of Forms*. 1968. Third edition. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2000.

Anthologies by form

Finch, Annie, and Marie-Elizabeth Mali, eds. *Villanelles*. New York: Everyman's Library/Random House, 2012.

Finch, Annie, and Alexandra Oliver, eds. *Measure for Measure: the Music of Poetry*. New York: Everyman's Library/Random House, forthcoming 2015.

Levin, Phillis, ed. *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet*. New edition. New York: Penguin Books, 2001.

Nester, Daniel. *The Incredible Sestina Anthology*. Long Beach, CA: Write Bloody Publishing, 2013.

Welford, Theresa. *The Paradelle*. Los Angeles: Red Hen Press, 2006.

Whitlow, Carolyn Beard, and Marilyn Krysl, eds. *Obsession: Sestinas in the Twenty-First Century*. Hanover, NH: Dartmouth College Press, 2014.

Websites devoted to repeating forms

The Rondeau Roundup. Alison Joseph, ed. therondeauroundup.blogspot.com/

Tilt-A-Whirl. (No longer being published, but a good archive.) Kate Bernadette Benedict, ed. www.umbrellajournal.com/tiltawhirl/contents.html

A PDF of this list

is available at todointhenewyear.net/craft-guides/.

A much more comprehensive list

is David Rothman's "The Craft of Poetry: A Bibliography of Resources in English." *Contemporary Poetry Review*, April 2011.

www.cprw.com/the-craft-of-poetry-a-bibliography-of-resources-in-english