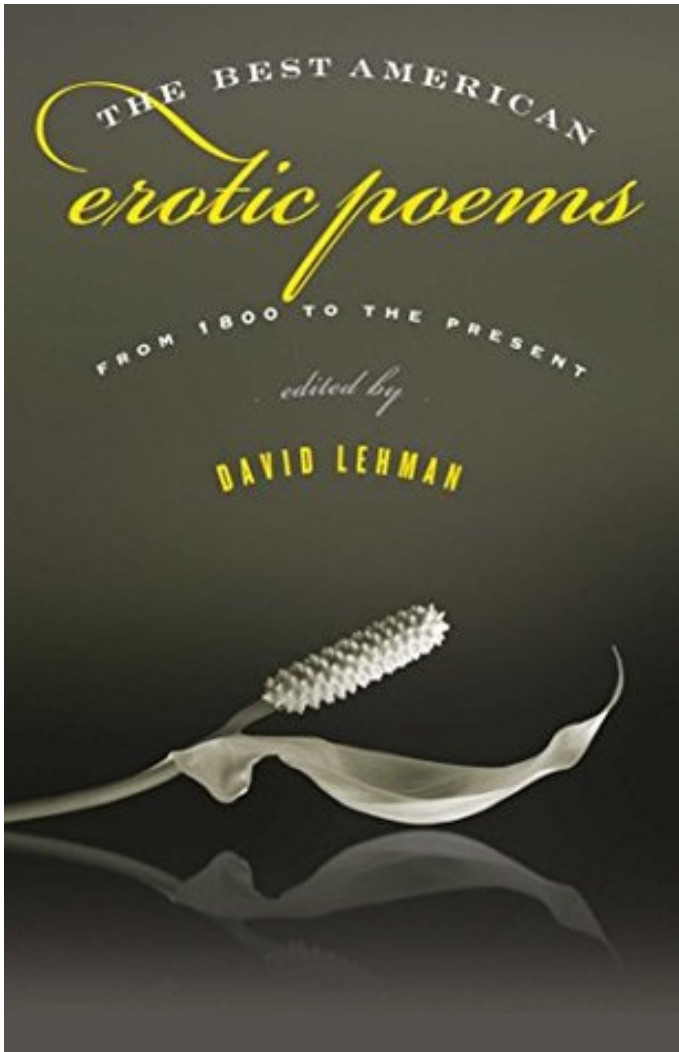


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**David Lehman**

**The Best American Erotic Poems: From 1800 to the Present**



Title: The Best American Erotic Poems:  
From 1800 to the Present

Author: David Lehman

Format: Paperback

Language: English

Pages: 300

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 1416537465

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 9.5 MB

Download: allowed

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## Description

There is a deep tradition of eroticism in American poetry. Thoughtful, provocative, moving, and sometimes mirthful, the poems collected in *The Best American Erotic Poems* celebrate this exuberant sensuality.

These poems range across the varied landscapes of love and sex and desire -- from the intimate parts of the body to the end of an affair, from passion to solitary self-pleasure. With candor and imagination, they capture the delights and torments of sex and sexuality, nudity, love, lust, and the secret life of fantasy.

David Lehman, the distinguished editor of the celebrated *Best American Poetry* series, has culled a witty, titillating, and alluring collection that starts with Francis Scott Key, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Hart Crane, encompasses Frank O'Hara, Anne Sexton, John Updike, Charles Simic, Billy Collins, Kevin Young, and Sharon Olds, and concludes with the rising stars of a whole new generation of versifiers, including Sarah Manguso, Ravi Shankar, and Brenda Shaughnessy.

In a section of the book that is sure to prompt discussion and further reading, the living poets write about their favorite works of erotic writing.

This book will delight, surprise, and inspire.

## Insightful reviews

Ako31: the best, best poems start midway through the 20th c.

my favorite:

Their Sex Life

one failure  
on top of another

-a.r. ammons

Ty: It's a great idea for a book, but I only liked about four or five of the poems.

Kelly: hubba hubba

Mills College Library: 811.00803 B5611 2008

Elaine: The intro to this booklet by way of the editor, David Lehman, was once amazing. hugely

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recommended. And, whereas I detest his determination to incorporate extra Emily Dickinson poems than these of the other author, and to incorporate a wierd one via Robert Frost that did not strike me as "erotic" at all, starting on web page 25 this publication grew to become wonderful and not able to be placed down.

Audrey: certainly a bedside desk book. This anthology of erotic poetry from 1800 via 2005ish includes poems from many recognized American poets that variety from smooth and loving to titillatingly graphic.

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