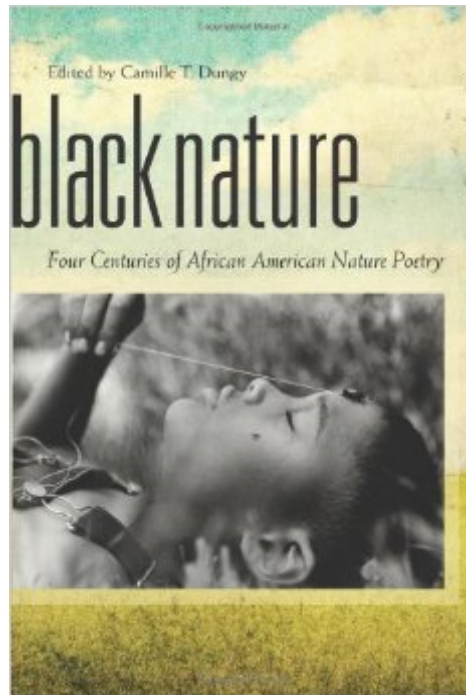


The book was found

Black Nature: Four Centuries Of African American Nature Poetry



Synopsis

Black Nature is the first anthology to focus on nature writing by African American poets, a genre that until now has not commonly been counted as one in which African American poets have participated. Black poets have a long tradition of incorporating treatments of the natural world into their work, but it is often read as political, historical, or protest poetry—anything but nature poetry. This is particularly true when the definition of what constitutes nature writing is limited to work about the pastoral or the wild. Camille T. Dungy has selected 180 poems from 93 poets that provide unique perspectives on American social and literary history to broaden our concept of nature poetry and African American poetics. This collection features major writers such as Phillis Wheatley, Rita Dove, Yusef Komunyakaa, Gwendolyn Brooks, Sterling Brown, Robert Hayden, Wanda Coleman, Natasha Trethewey, and Melvin B. Tolson as well as newer talents such as Douglas Kearney, Major Jackson, and Janice Harrington. Included are poets writing out of slavery, Reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, the Black Arts Movement, and late twentieth- and early twenty-first-century African American poetic movements. Black Nature brings to the fore a neglected and vital means of considering poetry by African Americans and nature-related poetry as a whole. A Friends Fund Publication.

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: University of Georgia Press (December 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0820334316

ISBN-13: 978-0820334318

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #96,538 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > African American > Poetry](#) #108 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Anthologies](#) #352 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

In Black Nature, editor Camille T. Dungy has compiled 180 poems reflecting on the natural world, and that are "expressed through the African American perspective". Ninety three voices are included here and the poems themselves are grouped into ten "cycles" that "highlight recurrent

concerns"; for example, natural disaster is the theme for cycle six while cycle seven explores fauna and human/animal relationships. Each cycle is introduced with an essay usually from one of the featured poets (not always written for this anthology, sometimes pulled from another work) to emphasize the theme for the group of poems that follow it. *Black Nature* is full of Black American history, stretching from Phillis Wheatley, the first published African American poet, to modern 21st century writers. This is not just an anthology of poetry, this is the history of a people brought unwillingly to a foreign land and the story of their growing bond throughout the centuries with the land itself.

A superb anthology with amazing scope. It spans over 400 years of African poetry, frequently revisiting subjects of history and ecology. It's great for the classroom or as a resource for your daily poem. The perspectives and styles are unique from one poem to the next, which made it an enjoyable read throughout.

This is an extremely worthwhile collection of nature poetry from the perspective of African American poets spanning 400 years. So there's tons of history here, human history, connected in with the poetry of the land, of place, of critters, of the farm, field, forest, sky, and soil...and yes, city nature, too... and fabulous garden poems. I read the book from cover to cover over a series of evenings this fall, and found so many wonderful delights here, it really was a revelation. Highly recommend.

I heard excerpts of this book on NPR. It is fresh and unusual. Take a moment and look at the world in a new way. There are poems written like newspaper ads, and one about the mosquito that almost becomes a mini cartoon in your head with this Rastafarian blood sucker.

I find this anthology to be filled with poetry that I have loved, but never considered in the context of nature. My poetry uses nature and I now know I am responding to a tradition that is purely American and Black.

This anthology is simply brilliant. Elegant and necessary. The combination of scholarship and heart that Camille Dungy brings to this volume is evident throughout.

A beautiful collection of poetry

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry Best American Poetry 2016 (The Best American Poetry series) The Best American Poetry 2015 (The Best American Poetry series) A History of Chowder: Four Centuries of a New England Meal (American Palate) African Masks Coloring Book: A Coloring Book Featuring Over 30 Images Inspired By Traditional African Masks,Cultural History,Folk Art Coloring Book,African Art Decor African Rhythm and African Sensibility: Aesthetics and Social Action in African Musical Idioms Spanish Poetry: A Dual-Language Anthology 16th-20th Centuries Verses and Versions: Three Centuries of Russian Poetry Lift Every Voice: The History of African American Music (The African American History Series) African American Haiku: Cultural Visions (Margaret Walker Alexander Series in African American Studies) Twenty-four Italian Songs and Arias of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries for Medium Low Voice (Schirmer's Library of Musical Classics, Vol. 1723) (English and Italian Edition) Four Centuries of Quilts: The Colonial Williamsburg Collection (Colonial Williamsburg Foundation) Twenty-Four Italian Songs & Arias of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries: Medium High Voice (Schirmer's Library of Musical Classics, Vol. 1722) (Italian and English Edition) Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat (A Poetry Speaks Experience) Children of the Outer Dark: The Poetry of Christopher Dewdney (Laurier Poetry) Perrine's Sound and Sense: An Introduction to Poetry (Perrine's Sound & Sense: An Introduction to Poetry) Poetry Speaks Who I Am: Poems of Discovery, Inspiration, Independence, and Everything Else (A Poetry Speaks Experience) Poetry Speaks to Children (Book & CD) (A Poetry Speaks Experience) Signs and Symbols: African Images in African American Quilts (2nd Edition) The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony (African Poetry Book)

[Dmca](#)