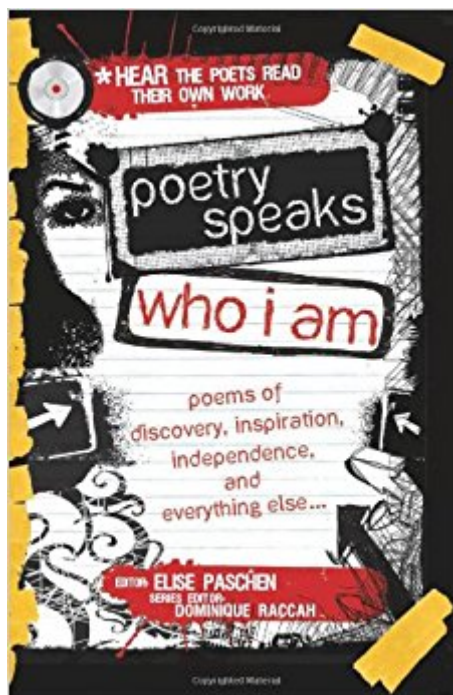


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# Poetry Speaks Who I Am: Poems Of Discovery, Inspiration, Independence, And Everything Else (A Poetry Speaks Experience)



## Synopsis

Poetry Speaks Who I Am is filled with more than 100 remarkable poems about you, who you are, and who you are becoming. Dive in-find the poem you love, the one that makes you angry, the one that makes you laugh, the one that knocks the wind out of you, and become a part of Poetry Speaks Who I Am by adding your own inside the book. Poetry can be life altering. It can be gritty and difficult. It can be hilarious or heart-breaking. And it's meant to be experienced, so we've included a CD on which you'll hear 44 poems, 39 of which are original recordings-you'll only find them here. You'll hear poets both classic and contemporary, well-known and refreshingly new, including: --Dana Gioia expresses the hunger of a "Vampire's Serenade" --Elizabeth Alexander waits for that second kiss in "Zodiac" --Langston Hughes flings his arms wide in "Dream Variations" --Marilyn Nelson reads to her class in "How I Discovered Poetry" --Paul Muldoon's poem "Sideman," brought loudly to life by the band Rackett --And 39 more poems that are immediate and vibrant From Lucille Clifton's "Here Yet Be Dragons" to Edgar Allan Poe's "Annabel Lee" to "Tia Chucha," by Luis J. Rodriguez, Poetry Speaks Who I Am is a collection that is dynamic, accessible, challenging, classic, edgy, and ultimately not quite perfect. Just like you. If you're lucky, it'll serve as a gateway to a lifetime lived with poetry. At the very least, it'll be a good time. Dive in, and happy hunting.

## Book Information

Series: A Poetry Speaks Experience

Hardcover: 176 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #50,559 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Teen & Young Adult > Poetry](#) #9 in [Books > Teen & Young Adult > Social Issues > Being a Teen](#) #39 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse](#)

Age Range: 12 - 16 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 6-10 • This extraordinary collection is alive with pathos, sensitivity, humor, beauty, controversy, and insight. The more than 100 poems are by prize-winning authors and relative newcomers. Familiar classics and contemporary selections sing out with profound ideas and simple truths. To define "who I am," there are selections about racial and ethnic identity; about ordinary and lofty ideas; about love, friendship, and family connections. They exhibit compassion, confusion, and anger. The poems are at once personal and universal, each told in a voice that speaks candidly to the target audience. The accompanying CD includes readings by many of the poets, and some of them describe the inspiration for their work, creating an intriguing perspective and connection to the piece. Blank pages at the end of the book invite readers to compose selections of their own. The variety of poems could easily hook youngsters on the genre as a comforting, accessible art form. This special book will enrich poetry sections. • Renee Steinberg, formerly at Fieldstone Middle School, Montvale, NJ Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From baseball to first kisses to family, friends, community, love, and anger, the subjects in the 108 poems that make up this lively anthology will appeal to young people. The editors mix classic and contemporary selections, from Langston Hughes' "I Loved My Friend" and Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" to Sherman Alexie's "Indian Education" and Julia Alvarez's "How I Learned to Sweep," and the spacious, inviting design will encourage teens to dip in, browse, and then linger. Another draw is the accompanying audio CD, on which many poets read their own work. Kids will recognize the familiar scenes in many poems, such as the torture of bra shopping for the first time and the fun of browsing in a used book store. Just as compelling are the selections by Shakespeare, Rilke, Dickinson, Whitman, and other classic poets. This makes a strong companion to poetry collections for youth compiled by Ruth Gordon, Paul Janeczko, and Naomi Shihab Nye. Grades 6-9. --Hazel Rochman

I got this book for my 10 yr old stepdaughter, who struggles with focus in school and has been in counseling for years due to issues with her mother. I heard about it on NPR last year, and felt it would be very good for her to hear poems by/about other children her age and the issues that bother them. She has read the entire thing, some of it several times, and listened to the cd. I can't say with certainty, but she seems to have bonded with some of the poems that speak directly to her about things that she deals with. I think this is an excellent book for a tween/young teen who struggles with identity - my greatest wish for her is that she learn who she is independent of all the

pressures from peers and family and this book I hope will help her achieve that.

Our English department decided to require our young adults to read and listen to the work this summer and prepare and present responses in the fall. Elise Paschen was a visiting artist at the school last April. We found this work a lovely collection of poems.

This is an excellent anthology. It would be great for teenagers, but I'm 55 years old, and I love it.

Bought for my daughter, she brought it to school and shared it with her class. The CD adds a nice dimension, lots of voices, it's interesting to hear the voices of poets that may not match your original notions. The poems are very personal, some might make you blush.

A great book

Great product!!!!!!!

Arrived on time. Just as described.

GREAT PRODUCT

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