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**Abstract**

Poetry is something that many teachers find problematical, and many pupils are not interested in reading and discussing. This book aims to explain how these prejudices, antipathies, and genuine difficulties have arisen, and suggests ways in which they can be tackled. It argues that the problem of making poetry accessible to children is far from insurmountable, and that building bridges between the written and oral forms is one strategy that may be employed fruitfully. It also contends that many children can derive considerable benefit from writing their own poetry. Throughout the book, the importance of rhythm is stressed.

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*The problem with poetry is that no one actually gives a shit. I write down these words and give them to you, but what they say you haven't got a clue. I could diss you in this, constantly. Cause the problem with poetry is that no one reads it. by now you probably decided to skip this verse. Cause you know what's next and honestly, you don't give a shit. So give me your praise, that's all I need. and maybe one day, you might just see what it's like to watch everyone lie to you cause your not even that foolish of a fool.*