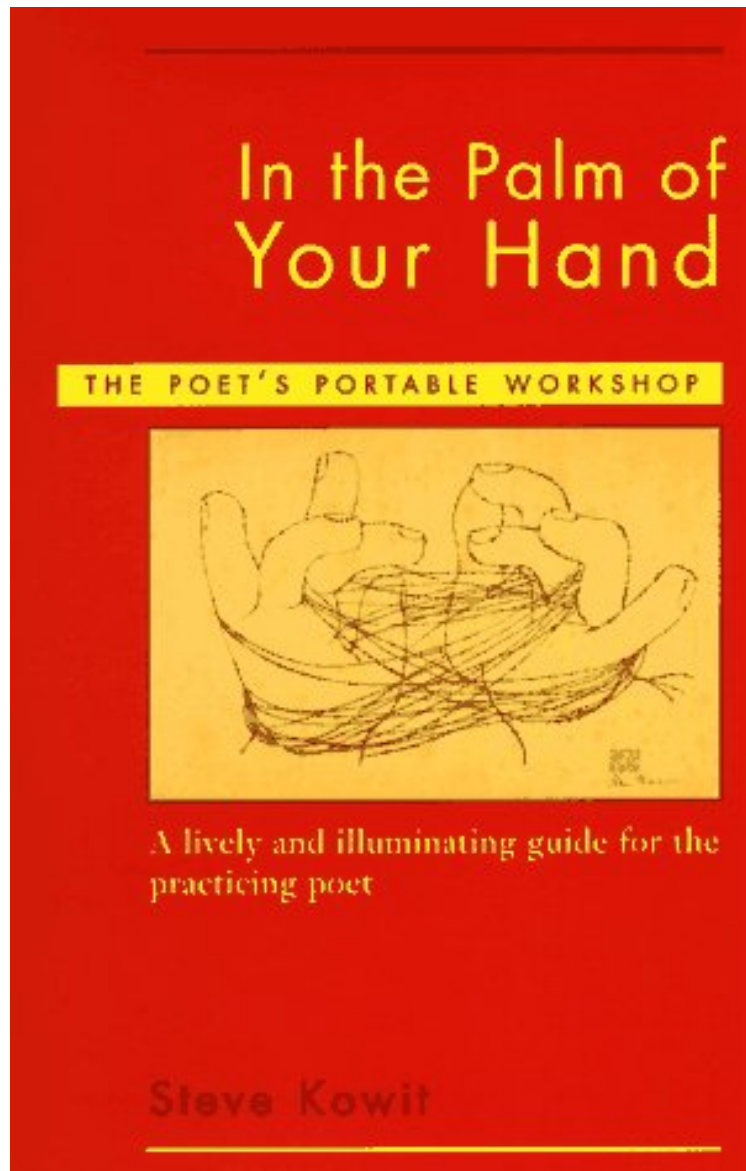


[Download] In the Palm of Your Hand: The Poet's Portable Workshop

In the Palm of Your Hand: The Poet's Portable Workshop

Steve Kowitz

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Steve Kowitz : In the Palm of Your Hand: The Poet's Portable Workshop before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In the Palm of Your Hand: The Poet's Portable Workshop:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I wish I'd had this available as a text when I was teaching By Maia Innes I found about 2/3 of the prompts and exercises useful in my own work the first time through, which is a very good average for me. I mostly read it wishing I'd had it when I taught Introductory Creative Writing; it would be an

excellent textbook. Most of the exercises would challenge beginners to do their best work, and it's really refreshing to see a book on poetry not insist that everyone's a perfect and special flower of a poet, and that every poem is brilliant simply because it exists. The idea that poetry can be appallingly bad -- and that writing said appalling poetry can be a step in development rather than an automatic death sentence to someone's hopes of writing -- should be presented to beginners as soon as possible. The chapter "Awful Poems" is worth the price of admission on its own because of how well it does just that...then follows up by showing how to recognize bad poetry and what can be done about it.^{2 of 2} people found the following review helpful. with a group of marvelous writers who also happen to be excellent respondents to other people's writing
By Margaret Hasse
Over the past five years I've been facilitating an independent writers' workshop in Saint Paul, Minnesota, with a group of marvelous writers who also happen to be excellent respondents to other people's writing. We've had visiting poets and used various texts. Hands down, *In the Palm of Your Hand* is the best of all the books we've used in the group. It is a well-written how-to book with intelligent and heart-felt observations and information about poetry, marvelous example poems, and inspiring exercises for beginning to advanced poets. I was sad to learn of the recent death of the book's author, Steve Kowitz. We're grateful that he gave us this marvelous book.^{0 of 0} people found the following review helpful. Wonderful Book, wonderful examples and exercises!
By Kenny A. Chaffin
Great book for beginners or for relighting the fire!

An illuminating and invaluable guide for beginners wary of modern poetry, as well as for more advanced students who want to sharpen their craft and write poems that expand their technical skills, excite their imaginations, and engage their deepest memories and concerns. Ideal for teachers who have been searching for a way to inspire students with a love for writing--and reading--contemporary poetry.

.com Steve Kowitz believes, and rightly so, that poetry should show, not tell. The same could be said for good teaching, which is what makes this volume so remarkable. In *In the Palm of Your Hand* Kowitz employs more than 100 poems and excerpts to illustrate his discussions on everything from metaphor to meter to metaphysics. Working your way through this book--and it is work--is like sitting in on a terrific creative-writing seminar, minus the criticism (both constructive and destructive) of fellow students. If you go by the book, you'll have written at least 69 poems by the end. Because of its explication of the basic tenets of poetry, *In the Palm of Your Hand* might be mistaken for a beginners' book only. That would be a shame. There are so many good ideas here that more experienced poets won't want to miss out; Kowitz has lots of exciting ways to invigorate one's writing. (Here's a favorite quick tip: "A good rule of thumb is never to use a word that you're proud of.") *In the Palm of Your Hand* is also recommended for members of writing groups who are interested in imposing some kind of structure on their meetings.
From Booklist
Kowitz really delivers what his title promises, so that reading the book is like taking a workshop with a generous poet willing to share everything he has learned about the creative process and the craft of poetry. Conversational in tone, it reads rather like an informal lecture. Kowitz covers a lot of technical material on metrical variations and line breaks and sound, and he balances it by attending to the sources of poetry in dream and emotion, in longing and loss. Although likely to find its largest audience among aspiring poets, Kowitz's effort is substantial enough to be of use to more practiced poets and to poetry readers, too. Patricia Monaghan "...a gift from a gifted and inspiring teacher, a way in to the world of poetry..." -- Foreword Magazine
"All told, this is a book that makes you want to write." -- Maine In Print
"It will help you unlock your heart and transform what's inside into memorable poetry." --Writer's Digest Book Club
"Kowitz's guide is delicious...will inspire even the most reluctant to pull out a pen and some paper." --NAPRA ReView
"This book will excite your imagination." --Writers Ink