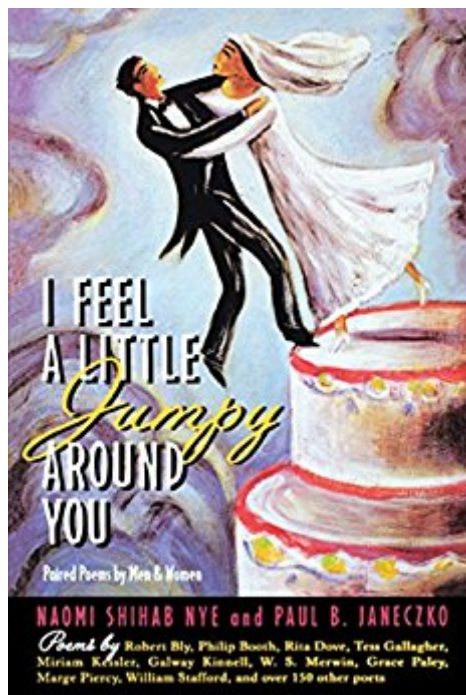




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I Feel A Little Jumpy Around You: A Book Of Her Poems & His Poems Collected In Pairs



Synopsis

In this award-winning anthology, the editors grouped almost 200 poems into pairs to demonstrate the different ways in which male and female poets see the same topics. How women see men, how boys see girls, and how we all see the world -- often in very different ways, but suprisingly, wonderfully, sometimes very much the same.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I picked this book up by chance (I was fascintated by its title). I was not disappointed as I read this "love" sonnet of one romantic to another. A good read for anyone that looks for real feelings and not the titulation that is often passed off as romance.

I enjoyed this books unique theme of giving two sides on the same topic. There is a male and a female speaker in a poem inspired about the same thing. The most interesting part of the book was to see how two people can thing of things in such a different way. At times when I couldn't identify with one, I could identify with the other. The great thing was when I could understand both and think,

hey that is a great way to look at it. I felt that this book really caused me to open my mind and not to expect things so much. I also like the great emotions that were pulled out of me while reading the book. There were topics such as death, fathers, hospitals, relaxation, childhood, beliefs, common day existence, and objects commonly thought of as irrelevant. The fact the the book is made up of poetry also gave it chances to be open and the reader to find their own meanings. I felt that I could understand this poetry and that it is current. It was published in 1996, that is probably why. The poems also flow smoothly in general and have come sort of conclusive meaning. Other poetry is harder for me to read because it is too whimsical and I guess and contemplate the meaning too much and never figure it out. The two views on the same subject seems to set this book apart from others. I think that it is great that it gives two ways for a person to look at something. When I write, I write as a matter of factly and a this is the only way solution. I enjoyed the length of the poems in this book because they were catchy and descriptive, yet not overbearing. One of my favorite poems in there is titled Conversation With A Fireman From Brooklyn. It evoked so many emotions from me. A part in it says, "Already he's telling me he doesn't mind women firefighters, but what/they look like after fighting a fire, well/they lose all respect." The male speaker goes on to act as if the only thing good about a women is how they look with a stay in the kitchen attitude. As a female I was disturbed by it. There are also great looks back at childhood. In the poem Dark Song a great part says, "Don't be scared of the dark:/ all night is the biggest shadow/ little kid in the biggest shadow. The book also includes interesting titles that made we wonder and keep reading. Such titles are Black Patent Leather Shoes, The Locker Room, and The Pyramid of Khufu. The whole idea behind the book I feel A little Jumpy Around You is a great example to readers and writers everywhere. Again, I would like to stress how much I enjoyed the different speakers in the poems, the giving of more than one view on the same subject, messages that are clear to understand, but you can interpret them in your own way, creative similes and metaphors that even youth can pick up on, modern subject matter, and poems that are a nice length to keep me motivated. The only disappointment was that all the poems seemed to include a few choppy lines and I feel that there should have been different rhythms and structures used.

Collected in PAIRS -- that is, two at a time, this collection looks at the world through male and female eyes. It delights not just with the usual anthologist's skill of finding wonderful poems for us to read, but with the collaborative skill of two people who care deeply about quality verse for young adults. A marvelous collection.

I like poetry, but the poems in this book are all written in the same style. There is no creativity shown, and no real variation. I have yet to find a person who liked this book. "Jump city", the poem from which the title was drawn, is the second worst poem I have ever read.

I suppose the reason I really didn't like this book was because I am not a fan of poetry. I prefer fiction novels, mysteries, adventures, etc. I did however appreciate the whole background of why the book was put together.

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