

Bayside Poetry (Harkness Support) Theme Database March 2017

Name of Poet	Themes	Suggested Poems	Source
Jeannette C. Armstrong (1948-)	Renewal	"World Renewal Song"	<i>Native Poetry In Canada</i> 811.006 NAT
Sylvia Adams (1934-)	Death	"Listening for the Dead"	<i>Pith and Wry: Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008PIT
Maya Angelou (1928-2014)	Truth	"A Brave and Startling Truth"	http://www.poetseers.org/contemporary-poets/maya-angelou-poems/a-brave-and-startling-truth/index.html
Margaret Atwood (1939-)	Drowning Frankenstein Old Age Execution Mythology	"This is a Photograph of Me" "Death of a Young Son By Drowning" "Speeches for Dr. Frankenstein" "Daguerreotype Taken in Old Age" "News Reel: Man and Firing Squad" "Orpheus (1)" "Eurydice"	<i>Margaret Atwood: Selected Poems</i> 811 ATW
W.H. Auden (1907-1973)	Bereavement and Grief (death of a close friend) War (WWII)	"Stop All the Clocks" "Refugee Blues"	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA <i>Second World War Poems</i> 811.6 HAU
Earle Birney (1904-1995)	War-aftermath Canada as a nation post WWII Nature Environmental	"D-Day" "Young Veterans" "Canada:Case History:1945" and follow up "Canada Case History: 1973, "Canada Case History: 1985" "Daybreak on Lake Opal: High Rockies" "Oil Refinery"	<i>One Muddy Hand: Selected Poems</i> 811 BIR

William Blake (1757-1827)	Suffering and Innocence Power of Animals and Creation Darkness in Human Nature (anger) Good and Evil	“The Lamb” “The Tyger” “The Poison Tree” “The Human Abstract”	<i>William Blake</i> 821 BLA
Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1881)	Love	“How Do I Love Thee?”	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
John Barton (1957)	Death	“Body Bag”	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA
Tim Bowling (1964-)	Nature Love	“Great Blue Heron” “Love Poem My Back to the Fraser”	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA
Asa Boxer (1973-)	Lies	“How to Lie”	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA
Rupert Brooke (1887-1915)	WWI: death and suffering	“Peace” “Safety” “The Dead” “The Soldier”	<i>In Flanders Fields and Other Poems of the First World War</i> 821.91 INF
Robert Browning (1812-1889)	Murder (and infidelity)	“My Last Duchess”	<i>Selected Poems: Browning</i> 821.8 BRO <i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Robert Burns (1759-1796)	Love Friendship	“A Red, Red Rose” “For Auld Lang Syne”	<i>Poems and Songs: Robert Burns</i> 821.1 BUR <i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA

Lord Geo. Gordon Byron (1788-1824)	Beauty	"She Walked in Beauty"	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Lewis Carroll (Dodgson) (1832-1898)	Parody	"How Doth the Crocodile" "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Bat" "Turtle Soup"	<i>Poems of Lewis Carroll</i> 821 CAR
Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)	Forgiveness	"Prayer of Saint Catherine"	http://www.poetseers.org/the-great-poets/the-classics/sophocles/long-life-not-to-be-desired/index.html
Alice Coats (1905-1978)	Women in War-time	"The 'Monstrous Regiment'"	<i>Second World War Poems</i> 808.81 HAU
Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)	Guilt Paradise? /Dreams Demons (Feminism?)	"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" "Kubla Khan" "Christabel"	<i>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i> 821 COL <i>Samuel Taylor Coleridge: The Major Works</i> <i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Leslie Coulson (1889-1916)	WWI: beauty in the midst of war Death	"From an Outpost" "The Rainbow" "--But a Short Time to Live" "Who Made the Law?"	<i>In Flanders Fields and Other Poems of the First World War</i> 821.91 INF
Lorna Crozier (1948-)	Grief	"Angel of Grief"	<i>Pith and Wry: Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008PIT
E.E. Cummings (1894-1962)	Childhood Nature Love	"Days of Innocence" (7 short poems) "Adult Nursery Rhymes" (5 short poems) "Spring" (6 short poems) "It is so long since my heart has been with yours"	<i>Selected Poems: E.E. Cummings</i> 811 CUM
Beth Cuthand (1942-)	Death	"August Heat"	<i>Voices in the Waterfall</i> 811 CUT

	War Sacred Spaces	“This Red Moon” “For all the Settlers who “Secretly Sing”	
Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)	Love Nature Time Eternity	Poems are assigned a number and the collection is organized by theme	<i>Emily Dickinson</i> 821 DIC
John Donne (1572-1631)	Love Death Faith	“Lovers Infinitenesse” “Death Be Not Proud” “Show Me Deare Christ”	<i>Selected Poems of John Donne</i>
Keith Douglas (1920-1944)	Death (WWII) Killing in War	“Simplify Me When I’m Dead” “Dead Men” “How to Kill”	<i>Second World War Poems</i> 808.81 HAU
T.S. Eliot (1888-1965)	War Post WWI disillusionment And questioning of faith	“A Note on War Poetry” “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” “The Wasteland” “Journey of the Magi”	<i>Second World War Poems</i> 808.81 HAU <i>Selected Poems: T.S. Eliot</i> <i>Collected Poems 1909-1962: T.S. Eliot</i> 821 ELI
Robert Frost (1874-1963)	Nature Decisions Fleeting nature of life	“Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” “The Road Not Taken” “Nothing Gold Can Stay”	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA <i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.8 PER
Chief Dan George (1899-1981)	Reserve Life	“To a Native Teenager” “If the Legends Fall Silent”	<i>Native Poetry In Canada: A Contemporary Anthology</i> 811.54 NAT
Julie Cameron Gray (199?-)	Art	“After Dark at the Tate Britain” “Performance Art” “Letters from Georgia O’Keefe” “The Legend of Zelda”	<i>Lady Crawford</i> 811 CAM <i>Performance Video on YouTube</i> https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=C1vkLUNXn90
Rita Joe	Loss of identity	“I Lost My Talk”	<i>Native Poetry In Canada:</i>

(1932-2007)		"Your Buildings"	811.006 NAT
John Keats (1795-1821)	Envy Mortality Beauty Sadness	"Ode to a Nightingale" "When I Have Fears that I Might Cease to Be" "Ode on a Grecian Urn" "Ode on Melancholy"	<i>Keats</i> 821 ING
Frederick E. Laight (1915-19??)	Destructive power of Nature	"Drought"	<i>The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse</i> 811.008 SMI
Archibald Lampman (1861-1899)	Solitude Industrialization	"Solitude" "The City of the End of Things"	<i>The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse</i> 811.009 BRI
John Lennon (1940-1980)	Future without war	"Imagine"	<i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.81 PER
Edward Lear (1812-1888)	"Nonsense" Poems- Humour	"How Pleasant to Know Mr. Lear" "The Owl and the Pussycat"	<i>How Pleasant to Know Mr. Lear</i> 821LEA
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)	Angels	"Footsteps of Angels"	http://www.litscape.com/author/Henry_Wadsworth_Longfellow/Footsteps_of_Angels.html
Rebecca Luce-Kapler (1954-)	Forgiveness Artists	"The Ground of Forgiveness" "Emily Carr Painting" "Many Ways to Be an Artist" "Trying to Paint Dying"	<i>The Gardens Where She Dreams</i> 811 LUC
Jeanette Lynes (1956-) Poetry is inspired by the works of poet John Clare (1793-1864)	Loss Love Film making	"The Origins of Loss" "John Clare in Love" "The Director"	<i>Bedlam Cowslip: The John Clare Poems</i> 811 LYN
Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)	Love	"The Passionate Shepherd to His Love"	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA

John McCrae (1872-1918)	WWI-death	"The Unconquered Dead" "In Flanders Fields" "The Anxious Dead"	<i>In Flanders Fields and Other Poems of the First World War</i>
Anne Michaels (1958)	Nature Dreaming	"Somewhere Night is Falling" "Black Sea" "I Dreamed Again"	<i>All We Saw</i> 811 MIC
John Milton (1608-1674)	Sin/Mankind's Fall	"Paradise Lost"	<i>Milton's Paradise Lost: Complete and Unabridged</i> 821 MIL
Mary Ann Mulhern (195?-)	Execution Imprisonment	"The Executioner" "Released"	<i>Pith and Wry: Canadian Poetry</i> 819.1 PIT
George Murray (1971-)	Morality The Flood	"The Cage" "Pike" "The Last of the Sinners Waits on a Rock for Noah"	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA
Shane Neilson (1975)	Facing Death after an injury	"Open Head Injury" "In the MRI Machine" "Bedside Delirium: Family Visit"	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA
Alfred Noyes (1880-1958)	Sacrifice	"The Highwayman (Part I)"	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Linda Pastan (1932-)	Grief and Loss	"The Five Stages of Grief"	<i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.8 PER
Molly Peacock (1947-)	Grief and Loss Aphasia Relationships Anger Artists Therapy and	"Gusto" "Speaking of Painting and Bird Watching" "The Art of the Stroke" "The Pottery Jar" "Mount Anger" "Life, Lightened" "Mandala in the Making" "Riddle, or the Therapy Hour"	<i>The Analyst</i> 811.54 PEA Listen to a documentary on Peacock's book: http://www.cbc.ca/radio/thursdayedition/doctors-on-planes-the-end-of-the-world-poet-and-therapist-switch-roles-afghan-ambassador-shinkai-karokhail-1.4026266/after-a-stroke-the-decades-long-relationship-between-a-poet-and-her-therapist

	analysis	"The Analyst's Promise"	pist-enters-a-new-chapter-1.4026282
Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849)	Isolation Madness (and superstition) Love	"Alone" "The Raven" "Annabel Lee"	<i>Visions of Poe: A Selection of Edgar Allan Poe's Stories and Poems</i> 818.3 POE
E.J. Pratt (1882-1964)	Swift silence of death	"Silences"	<i>The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse</i> 811.009 BRI
Al Purdy (1918-2000)	Death (family) Exploration War (and resentment of authority) Hunting	"Elegy for a Grandfather" "The North West Passage" "Sergeant Jackson" "Hunting Season"	<i>A.W. Purdy: Wild Grape Wine</i> 811 PUR <i>Beyond Remembering: The Collected Poems of Al Purdy</i> 811 PUR
Gayle Reynolds (20th century)	Disillusionment	"Disillusionment"	<i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.8 PER
Stuart Ross (1959)	Death of a parent Books and Reading	"Pompano" "Three in a Room" "De Havilland"	<i>A Sparrow Came Down Resplendent</i> 811 ROS
Christine Rossetti (1830-1894)	Death	"Remember Me"	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Carl Sandburg (1878-1967)	Wind and Sea Night	"Sea Slant" "Valley Song"	<i>Early Moon</i> 811 SAN
Richard Sanger (1960-)	Refugees	"Madonna of the New World"	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008 STA

Angeline Schellenberg (1973-	Genetic mutations Birth Autism Senses Faith	"X" "Labour" "It's a Boy" "When I Knew I Loved You" "Autism for Dummies" "Taste and See" "Faith"	<i>Tell Them It was Mozart</i> 811 SCH
Robert Service (1874-1958)	Murder Supernatural	"The Shooting of Dan McGrew" "The Cremation of Sam McGee"	<i>Collected Poems of Robert Service</i> 811 SER
Shakespeare (1564-1616)	Beauty Love Age vs. Youth; Friendship Death	"Shall I Compare Thee" Sonnet 18 "Sonnet 116-Let Me Not to the Marriage..." "Crabbed Age and Youth" "When Forty Winters..." Sonnet 2 "When in disgrace with Fortune..." Sonnet 29 "No Longer Mourn for Me" Sonnet 71	<i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA <i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.8 PER <i>The Sonnets</i>
Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)	Civilization Pride Unity with Nature and Imagination Mutability	"Ozymandias of Egypt" "To A Skylark" "The Flower that Smiles Today" "We Are Clouds That Veil the Midnight Moon"	<i>Poems of Percy Bysshe Shelley</i> 821 SHE <i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
Shel Silverstein (1930-1999)	Childhood (humour)	"The Gypsies Are Coming" "Enter this Deserted House" "The Garden"	<i>Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Poems and Drawings of Shel</i>

		"Snowman"	<i>Silverstein</i> 811 SIL
Anne Simpson (1955-	Artists	"Seven Paintings by Brueghel"	<i>An Anthology of Canadian Poetry</i> 811.008STA
Kilby Smith-McGregor (198?)	Love and sacrifice Colours Illness	"On the Occasion of St. Valentine's Death" "Readings on the Philosophy of Colour: Morningside Heights" "Red" "Blue" "Room 257: I Eat Your Ice Chips"	<i>Kids in Triage</i> 811 SMI
Sophocles (498 BC-406 BC)	Envy	"Long Life Not to Be Desired"	http://www.poetseers.org/the-great-poets/the-classics/sophocles/long-life-not-to-be-desired/index.html
Raymond Souster (1921-2012)	Crime	"The Man who Finds that his Son has Become a Thief"	<i>The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse</i> 811.009 BRI
Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)	Childhood's innocence	"The Land of Nod" "My Shadow" "The Land of Counterpane"	<i>A Child's Garden of Verses</i> 821 STE
Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)	Future after War	"There Will Come Soft Rains"	<i>Poetry Alive: Perspectives</i> 808.8 PER
Dylan Thomas (1914-1953)	Childhood Death	"Fern Hill" "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night"	<i>A Dylan Thomas Treasury: Poems, Stories and Broadcasts</i> 821.9 THO <i>Dylan Thomas: Selected Poetry 1934-1952</i> 821.9 THO
Miriam Waddington (1917-2004)	Love Music	"The Season's Lovers" "Elegies for a Composer" "In a Summer Garden"	<i>The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse</i> 811.009 BRI <i>The Visitants</i>

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Richard Wilbur (1921-)	Beauty in the midst of Death	"First Snow in Alsace"	<i>Second World War Poems</i> 808.81 HAU
William Wordsworth (1770-1850)	Nature	"The Daffodils"	<i>Selected Poetry of William Wordsworth</i> 821.7 WOR <i>One Hundred Favourite Poems</i> 821 REA
William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)	War Spirituality/ Supernaturalism Mythology	"An Irish Airman Foresees his Death" "Easter Rising 1916" "The Second Coming" "Sailing to Byzantium" "The Magi" "Leda and the Swan"	<i>The Yeats Reader</i> 821.8 YEA

More on the Theme of Nature

Haiku-vision in Poetry and Photography 895.6 ATW

A Book of Luminous Things 808.81MIL (large section devoted to theme of nature)

Poetry on the Theme of Solitude (inspired by art of Edward Hopper)

The Poetry of Solitude 808.1 LEV

Poetry from a strictly Female Perspective

The Penguin Book of Women Poets 808.81 PEN

Mature Reader Required

-Beat Poets 811.008 BEA

Leonard Cohen-Book of Longing 811.54 COH

(poetry often focussing on disillusionment, depicting consequences of drugs, alcohol, sexuality, poor decisions etc.)

Arun Maji- *Song of the Soul: Poetry of Love, Passion and Life* 821 MAJ

Sylvia Plath

(Much of Plath's poetry deals with feelings of abuse, imprisonment, depression and suicide)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/sylvia-plath#about>

