

## Adrienne Rich Free Adrienne Rich Adrienne

*Anne Bradstreet, Emily Dickinson, and Adrienne Rich share nationality, gender, and an aesthetic tradition, but each expresses these experiences in the context of her own historical moment. Puritanism imposed stringent demands on Bradstreet, romanticism both inspired and restricted Dickinson, and feminism challenged as well as liberated Rich. Nevertheless, each poet succeeded in forming a personal vision that counters traditional male poetics. Their poetry celebrates daily life, demonstrates their commitment to nurturance rather than dominance, shows their resistance to the control of both their earthly and heavenly fathers, and affirms their experience in a world that has often denied women a voice. Wendy Martin recreates the textures of these women's lives, showing how they parallel the shifts in the status of American women from private companion to participant in a wider public life. The three portraits examine in detail the life and work of the Puritan wife of a colonial magistrate, the white-robed, reclusive New England seer, and the modern feminist and lesbian activist. Their poetry, Martin argues, tells us much about the evolution of feminist and patriarchal perspectives, from Bradstreet's resigned acceptance of traditional religion, to Dickinson's private rebellion, to Rich's public criticism of traditional masculine culture. Together, these portraits compose the panels of an American triptych. Beyond the dramatic contrasts between the Puritan and feminist vision, Martin finds striking parallels in form. An ideal of a new world, whether it be the city on the hill or a supportive community of women, inspires both. Like the commonwealth of saints, this concept of a female collectivity, which all three poets embrace, is a profoundly political phenomenon based on a pattern of protest and reform that is deeply rooted in American life. Martin suggests that, through their belief in regeneration and renewal, Bradstreet Dickinson, and Rich are part of a larger political as well as literary tradition. An American Triptych both enhances our understanding of the poets' work as part of the web of American experience and suggests the outlines of an American female poetic.*

*A Boston Globe Best Poetry Book of 2011 This is the definitive edition of the work of one of America's greatest poets, increasingly recognized as one of the greatest English-language poets of the twentieth century, loved by readers and poets alike. Bishop's poems combine humor and sadness, pain and acceptance, and observe nature and lives in perfect miniaturist close-up. The themes central to her poetry are geography and landscape—from New England, where she grew up, to Brazil and Florida, where she later lived—human connection with the natural world, questions of knowledge and perception, and the ability or inability of form to control chaos. This new edition offers readers the opportunity to take in, entire, one of the great careers in twentiethcentury poetry.*

*Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. In this, her thirteenth book of verse, the author of "The Dream of a Common Language" and "Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law" writes of war, oppression, the future, death, mystery, love and the magic of poetry.*

*"Adrienne Rich's new prose collection could have been titled The Essential Rich."—Women's Review of Books These essays trace a distinguished writer's engagement with her time, her arguments with herself and others. "I am a poet who knows the social power of poetry, a United States citizen who knows herself irrevocably tangled in her society's hopes, arrogance, and despair," Adrienne Rich writes. The essays in Arts of the Possible search for possibilities beyond a compromised, degraded system, seeking to imagine something else. They call on the fluidity of the imagination, from poetic vision to social justice, from the badlands of political demoralization to an art that might wound, that may open scars when engaged in its work, but will finally suture and not tear apart. This volume collects Rich's essays from the last decade of the twentieth century, including four earlier essays, as well as several conversations that go further than the usual interview. Also included is her essay explaining her reasons for declining the National Medal for the Arts. "The work is inspired and inspiring."—Alicia Ostriker "[S]o clear and clean and thorough. I learn from her again and again."—Grace Paley*

*A Biography*

*Adrienne Rich's Poetry and Prose*

*The Voice of the Poet*

*Motherhood as Experience and Institution*

*Dark Fields of the Republic: Poems 1991-1995*

*The Shape and Sound of Southern Poetry Today*

*Time's Power* is a new book by a major American poet, and a landmark in a distinguished ongoing career. For thirty years, Rich's poetry has revealed the individual personal life—sexualities, loves, damages, struggles—as inseparable from a wider social condition, a world with others, in which the empowering of the disempowered is increasingly the source of human hope. Now her mature vision engages with the power of time itself: memory and its contradictions, the ebb and flow between parents and children, the deaths we all face sooner or later, the meaning of human responsibility in all this. "Letters in the Family," for example, is written in the voices of three women—from the Spanish Civil War, from a Jewish rescue mission behind Nazi lines, and from present-day Southern Africa. *Time's Power* shows Rich writing with unprecedented range, complexity, and authority.

That Adrienne Rich is a not only a major American poet but an incisive, compelling prose writer is made clear once again by this collection, in which she continues to explore the social and political context of her life and art. Examining the connections between history and the imagination, ethics and action, she explores the possible meanings of being white, female, lesbian, Jewish, and a United States citizen, both at this particular time and through the lens of the past.

"The Will to Change is an extraordinary book of poems...It has the urgency of a prisoner's journal: patient, laconic, eloquent, as if determined thoughts were set down in stolen moments." —David Kalstone in The New York Times Book Review "The Will to Change must be read whole: for its tough distrust of completion and for its cool declaratives which fix us with a stare more unsettling than the most hysterical questions...It includes moments when poverty and heroism explode grammer with their own dignified unsyntactical demands...The poems are about departures, about the pain of breaking away from lovers and from an old sense of self. They discover the point where loneliness and politics touch, where the exercise of the radical courage takes its inevitable toll."—David Kalstone in The New York Times Book Review Drawing upon 12 volumes of her published work as well as a manuscript posthumously left behind, this collection from the award-winning poet includes "From Strata," "Itinerary," "For the Young Anarchists" and "Theetsucking Bird."

Sources

Adrienne Rich's Expanding Solitudes

Later Poems: Selected and New: 1971-2012

Diving into the Wreck: Poems 1971-1972

Selected Prose, 1979-1985

Adrienne Rich

*Tim Burton meets The Pop-Up Book of Phobias in The Book of Memory Gaps, a poetic and hauntingly funny illustrated book that explores the power and mystery of the human mind, created by author and artist Ceciliz Ruiz.*

*A Study Guide for Adrienne Rich's "Diving into the Wreck," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Poetry for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Poetry for Students for all of your research needs.*

*"Trust Rich, a clarion poet of conscience, to get the fractured timbre of the times just right."--Booklist, starred review In this new collection Adrienne Rich confronts dislocations and upheavals in the United States at the beginning of the twenty-first century. The title poem, in a young schoolteacher's voice, evokes the lessons that children ("Not of course here") learn amid violence and hatred, "when the whole town flinches / blood on the undersole thickening to glass." "Usonian Journals 2000" intercuts faces and conversations, building to a dystopic/utopic vision. Throughout these fierce and musical poems, Rich traces the imprint of a public crisis on individual experience: personal lives bent by collective realities, language itself held to account.*

*The author reexamines her own experiences as a woman and mother, discusses the potential relationship between women and reproduction, and analyzes the assumptions, stereotypes, and restrictions of a patriarchal society*

*Blood, Bread, and Poetry: Selected Prose 1979-1985*

*Of Woman Born*

*Essential Essays: Culture, Politics, and the Art of Poetry*

*The Book of Memory Gaps*

*The Moment of Change*

*Twenty-one Love Poems*

*In her six-decade long writing career Adrienne Rich (1929–2012) addressed, with sagacity and probing honesty, most of the significant issues of her lifetime. A poet of finely tuned craft, she won numerous prizes, awards, and honorary degrees, and famously rejected the prestigious National Medal for the Arts in 1997. She wrote twenty-five volumes of poetry and seven non-fiction books as she combined the roles of poet, scholar, theorist, and activist. Rich wrote passionately and powerfully about major 20th and early 21st century concerns such as feminism, racism, sexism, the Vietnam War, Marxism, militarism, the growing income disparities in the U.S., and other social issues. Her works ask important questions about how we should act, and what we should believe. They imagine new ways to deal with the social and political challenges of the twentieth century. Setting her work in the context of her life and American politics and culture during her lifetime, this book explores Rich’s poetic and personal journey from conservative, dutiful follower of cultural and poetic traditions to challenging questioner and critic, from passivity and powerlessness to activist, theorist, and acclaimed “poet of the oppositional imagination.”*

*Drawing on her journals, letters, dreams, memories, and careful readings of many poets, the award-winning poet reflects on the influence of literature on American life and politics today*

*In this collection of prose writings, one of America's foremost poets and feminist theorists reflects upon themes that have shaped her life and work. At issue are the politics of language; the uses of scholarship; and the topics of racism, history, and motherhood among others called forth by Rich as "part of the effort to define a female consciousness which is political, aesthetic, and erotic, and which refuses to be included or contained in the culture of passivity."*

*Sixty years of poems from pioneering writer, activist, and intellectual Adrienne Rich--"the Blake of American letters" (Nadine Gordimer). Adrienne Rich was the singular voice of her generation, bringing discussions of gender, race, and class to the forefront of poetical discourse. This generous selection from all nineteen of Rich's published poetry volumes encompasses her best-known work--the clear-sighted and passionate feminist poems of the 1970s, including "Diving into the Wreck," "Planetarium," and "The Phenomenology of Anger"--and offers the full range of her evolution as a poet. From poems leading up to her feminist breakthrough through bold later work such as "North American Time" and "Calle Visión," Selected Poems celebrates Rich's prophetic vision as well as the inventiveness that shaped her enduring art.*

*Blood, Bread, and Poetry*

*Poems 2007-2010*

*Collected Early Poems: 1950-1970*

*Poems, Prose, Reviews, and Criticism*

*Challenging Authors*

*An Atlas of the Difficult World: Poems 1988-1991*

Collects new poems by the author, that celebrate social presence under enforced isolation, aggressive authority, and ancient and present wars.

A collection of prose pieces by Adrienne Rich that examines the connections between history of the imagination.

" We are in the presence here of a major American poet whose voice at mid-century in her own life is increasingly marked by moral passion. " —New York Times Book Review

The pathbreaking investigation into motherhood and womanhood from an influential and enduring feminist voice, now for a new generation. In *Of Woman Born*, originally published in 1976, influential poet and feminist Adrienne Rich examines the patriarchic systems and political institutions that define motherhood. Exploring her own experience—as a woman, a poet, a feminist, and a mother—she finds the act of mothering to be both determined by and distinct from the institution of motherhood as it is imposed on all women everywhere. A “ powerful blend of research, theory, and self-reflection ” (Sandra M. Gilbert, *Paris Review*), *Of Woman Born* revolutionized how women thought about motherhood and their own liberation. With a stirring new foreword from National Book Critics Circle Award – winning writer Eula Biss, the book resounds with as much wisdom and insight today as when it was first written.

*A Man in Winter*

*Of Woman Born: Motherhood as Experience and Institution*

*The Dream of a Common Language: Poems 1974-1977*

*Poetry and Commitment*

*The Power of Adrienne Rich*

*Arts of the Possible: Essays and Conversations*

*A career–spanning selection of the lucid, courageous, and boldly political prose of National Book Award winner Adrienne Rich. Adrienne Rich was an award-winning poet, influential essayist, radical feminist, and major intellectual voice of her generation. Essential Essays gathers twenty-five of her most renowned essays into one volume, demonstrating the lasting brilliance of her voice, her prophetic vision, and her revolutionary views on social justice. Rich's essays unite the political, personal, and poetical like no other. Essential Essays is edited and includes an introduction by leading feminist scholar, literary critic, and poet Sandra M. Gilbert. Emphasizing Rich's lifelong intellectual engagement, the essays selected here range from the 1960s to 2008. The volume contains one of Rich's earliest essays, “When We Dead Awaken: Writing as Re-Vision,” which discusses the need for female self-definition, along with excerpts from her ambitious, ground-breaking *Of Woman Born: Motherhood as Experience and Institution*. As the New York Times wrote, Rich “brought the oppression of women and lesbians to the forefront of poetic discourse,” as evidenced in her 1980 essay, “Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence.” Also among these insightful and forward-thinking works are: “Split at the Root: An Essay on Jewish Identity”; excerpts from *What Is Found There*, about the need to reexamine the literary canon; “Why I Refused the National Medal for the Arts”; “Poetry and the Forgotten Future”; and other writings that profoundly shaped second-wave feminism, each balanced by Rich's signature blend of research, theory, and self-reflection.*

*“Certain lines had become like incantations to me, words I'd chanted to myself through sorrow and confusion” –Cheryl Strayed, Wild “The Dream of a Common Language explores the contours of a woman's heart and mind in language for everybody–language whose plainness, laughter, questions and nobility everyone can respond to. . . . No one is writing better or more needed verse than this.”–Boston Evening Globe*

*This reissue of Adrienne Rich's first poetry collection reaffirms the author's place as one of our most important American poets. A Change of World was selected by W. H. Auden for the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award. Out of print for decades, this initial collection launched the career of a poet whose work has been crucial to discussions of gender, race, and class, pushing formal boundaries and consistently examining both self and society.*

*Arienne Bond calls attention to the rich variety of contemporary southern poetry and to the common heritage that is reflected in its subjects and themes. Her perceptive comments and questions encourage readers to explore the region's poets.*

*On Lies, Secrets, and Silence*

*A Wild Patience Has Taken Me This Far: Poems 1978–1981*

*Selected Poems, 1950–2012*

*A Change of World: Poems*

*Collected Poems: 1950–2012*

*Poems*

*Presents an annotated selection of poems and prose writings by twentieth-century American author Adrienne Rich, and includes thirteen reviews and interpretations of her work.*

*Selected prose*

*In the traditional of great literary manifestos, Norton is proud to present this powerful work by Adrienne Rich. With passion, critical questioning, and humor, Adrienne Rich suggests how poetry has actually been lived in the world, past and present. In this essay, which was the basis for her speech upon accepting the National Book Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters, she ranges among themes including poetry's disparagement as "either immoral or unprofitable," the politics of translation, how poetry enters into extreme situations, different poeties as conversations across place and time. In its openness to many voices, Poetry and Commitment offers a perspective on poetry in an ever more divided and violent world. "I hope never to idealize poetry—it has suffered enough from that. Poetry is not a healing lotion, an emotional massage, a kind of linguistic aromatherapy. Neither is it a blueprint, nor an instruction manual, nor a billboard."*

*In her seventh volume of poetry, Adrienne Rich searches to reclaim—to discover—what has been forgotten, lost, or unexplored. "I came to explore the wreck. / The words are purposes. / The words are maps. / I came to see the damage that was done / and the treasures that prevail." These provocative poems move with the power of Rich's distinctive voice.*

*Outward*

*Time's Power: Poems 1985-1988*

*A Study Guide for Adrienne Rich's "Diving into the Wreck"*

*Anne Bradstreet, Emily Dickinson, and Adrienne Rich*

*What is Found There*

*Tonight No Poetry Will Serve*

More than 200 poems collected from Adrienne Rich's first six books, plus a dozen others of those decades. From their first publication, when Rich was twenty-one, in the prestigious Yale Younger Poets series, the successive volumes of her poetry have both charted the

growth of her own mind and vision and mirrored our tempestuous, unsettled age. Her unmistakable voice, speaking even from the earliest poems with rare assurance and precision, wrestles with urgent questions while never failing to explore new poetic territory. In *Collected Early Poems*, readers will once again bear witness to Rich's triumphant assertion of the centrality of poetry in our intertwined personal and political lives.

Although best known as a poet, Adrienne Rich is a versatile critic and a gifted writer of nonfiction and critical theory. One of America's most outspoken literary figures, her courage in speaking out against injustice in the United States and worldwide has earned her the kind of international political following few American poets enjoy. This book is a much-needed comprehensive study of her life and career. It covers the full progression of her poetry from the beginning through her most recent work. In doing so, it clarifies her entire poetic output and illuminates her concepts of nation, the female body, power, and women's sexuality.

The first comprehensive biography of Adrienne Rich, feminist and queer icon and internationally revered National Book Award winning poet. Adrienne Rich was the female face of American poetry for decades. Her forceful, uncompromising writing has more than stood the test of time, and the life of the woman behind the words is equally impressive. Motivated by personal revelations, Rich transformed herself from a traditional, Radcliffe-educated lyric poet and married mother of three sons into a path-breaking lesbian-feminist author of prose as well as poetry. In doing so, she emerged as both architect and exemplar of the modern feminist movement, breaking ranks to denounce the male-dominated literary establishment and paving the way for the many queer women of letters to take their places in the cultural mainstream. Drawing on a wealth of unpublished materials, including Rich's correspondence and in-depth interviews with numerous people who knew her, Hilary Holladay digs deep into never-before-accessed sources to portray Rich in full dimension and vivid, human detail.

The first scholarly study of Adrienne Rich 's full career examines the poet through her developing approach to the transformative potential of relationships Adrienne Rich is best known as a feminist poet and activist. This iconic status owes especially to her work during the 1970s, while the distinctive political and social visions she achieved during the second half of her career remain inadequately understood. In *Outward*, poet, scholar, and novelist Ed Pavli considers Rich 's entire oeuvre to argue that her most profound contribution in poems is her emphasis on not only what goes on " within us " but also what goes on " between us. " Guided by this insight, Pavli shows how Rich 's most radical work depicts our lives—from the public to the intimate—in shared space rather than in owned privacy. Informed by Pavli 's friendship and correspondence with Rich, *Outward* explores how her poems position visionary possibilities to contend with cruelty and violence in our world. Employing an innovative framework, Pavli examines five kinds of solitude reflected in Rich 's poems: relational solitude, social solitude, fugitive solitude, dissident solitude, and radical solitude. He traces the importance of relationships to her early writing before turning to Rich 's explicitly antiracist and anticapitalist work in the 1980s, which culminates with her most extensive sequence, " An Atlas of the Difficult World. " Pavli concludes by examining the poet 's twenty-first century work and its depiction of relationships that defy historical divisions based on region, race, class, gender, and sexuality. A deftly written engagement in which one poet works within the poems of another, *Outward* reveals the development of a major feminist thinker in successive phases as Rich furthers her intimate and erotic, social and political reach. Pavli illuminates Rich 's belief that social divisions and the power of capital inform but must never fully script our identities or our relationships to each other.

*The School Among the Ruins: Poems 2000-2004*

1971–2012

*Notebooks on Poetry and Politics*

*Poems: Selected and New, 1950-1974*

*Selected Prose, 1966-1978*

*An American Triptych*

***"When does a life bend towards freed? grasp its direction" asks Adrienne Rich in *Dark Fields of the Republic*, her major new work. Her explorations go to the heart of democracy and love, and the historical and present endangerment of both. A theater of voices of men and women, the dead and the living, over time and across continents, the poems of *Dark Fields of the Republic* take conversations, imaginary and real, actions taken for better or worse, out of histories and songs to extend the poet's reach of witness and power of connection—and then invites the reader to participate.***

***The collected works of Adrienne Rich, whose poetry is "distinguished by an unswerving progressive vision and a dazzling, empathic ferocity" (New York Times). A Finalist for the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Adrienne Rich was the singular voice of her generation and one of our most important American poets. She brought discussions of gender, race, and class to the forefront of poetical discourse, pushing formal boundaries and consistently examining both self and society. This collected volume traces the evolution of her poetry, from her earliest work, which was formally exact and decorous, to her later work, which became increasingly radical in both its free-verse form and feminist and political content. The entire body of her poetry is on display in this vast volume, including the National Book Award-winning *Diving Into the Wreck* and her prize-winning *Atlas of the Difficult World*. The *Collected Poems of Adrienne Rich* gathers and memorializes all of her boldly political, formally ambitious, thoughtful, and lucid work, the whole of which makes her one of the most prolific and influential poets of our time.***

***The Will to Change: Poems 1968-1970***

***"Free to Choose the Tradition": Adrienne Rich's Utilization of Muriel Rukeyser as Foundation of a Women's Literary Tradition***

***On Lies, Secrets, and Silence: Selected Prose 1966-1978***