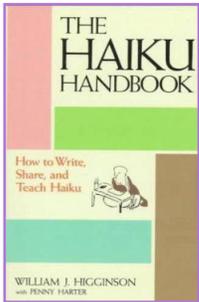


# Becoming a Poet

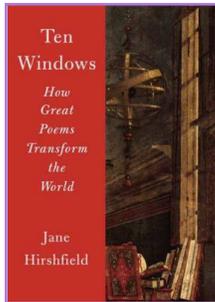
**Ever wanted to write a poem but didn't know where to start?**

*It's easier than you think!* Here are some suggestions to help you begin:

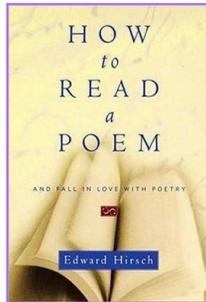
## **Books You Can Borrow** *within the Library System...*



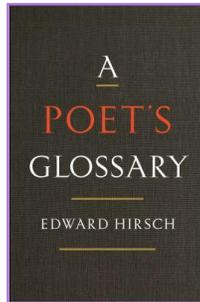
**The Haiku Handbook**  
- William J. Higginson



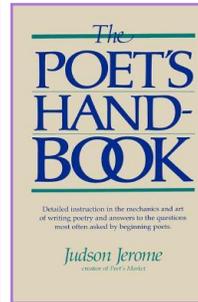
**Ten Windows: How Great Poems Transform the World** - Jane Hirshfield



**How to Read a Poem**  
- Edward Hirsch



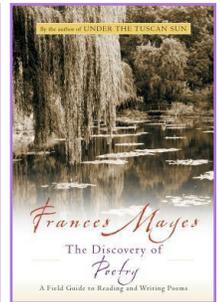
**A Poet's Glossary**  
- Edward Hirsch



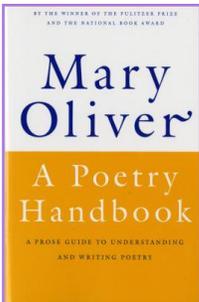
**The Poet's Handbook**  
- Judson Jerome



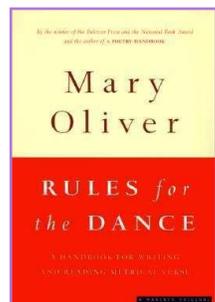
**The Poetry Home Repair Manual**  
- Ted Kooser



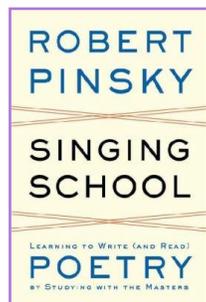
**The Discovery of Poetry**  
- Frances Mayes



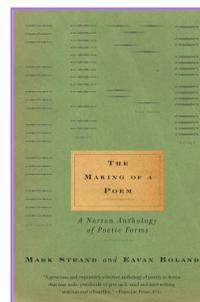
**A Poetry Handbook**  
- Mary Oliver



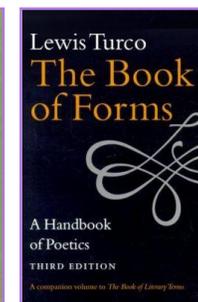
**Rules for the Dance**  
- Mary Oliver



**Singing School**  
- Robert Pinsky



**The Making of a Poem**  
- Mark Strand, Eavan Boland



**The Book of Forms**  
- Lewis Turco

Even more books exist under these subjects in the library catalog:

- Creative Writing
- Poetics
- Poetry – Authorship
- Versification

*Need some help with rhyming?* Rhyming dictionaries also exist!

You can always ask a librarian about any of these topics!

## **Some Websites You Can Visit** *to Learn More about Poetry...*

- The Academy of American Poets: [www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)
- The Poetry Foundation: [www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)
- Poetry Resources Online: [www.thrall.org/poetry](http://www.thrall.org/poetry)

## **Some Helpful Tips** *for Your Consideration...*

- **Learning to write poetry** can be fun, educational, even therapeutic and inspiring!
- Poetry can help us **explore, express, and understand the world** (and even ourselves) in **new ways!**
- A **librarian** can help you locate **poetry collections** (also known as **poetry anthologies**), and these can enable you to learn more about **popular and classic poems** as well as to help you gain a better sense of **what kinds of poetic styles and topics you might like to explore in your own poetry.**
- Always be **ready to write.** Keep some paper and a pen or pencil handy so, when **inspiration** strikes, you're prepared! When it does, quickly write whatever thoughts come to mind. You can always **revise** later.
- If you have a **computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone**, you might be able to download **software** or "**app**" which can let you **type or record your ideas and observations** as they occur to you.
- Learning **basic poetry concepts** can help you understand **how poems work** and what makes "good poem."
- You can download our **free poetry guides** at [www.thrall.org/poetry](http://www.thrall.org/poetry) and begin to see how various **poetic techniques** can **transform ordinary words into moving and memorable passages.**
- For **more possibilities**, we invite you to visit our **National Poetry Month** website: [www.thrall.org/npm](http://www.thrall.org/npm)