

## Lyman Allyn Book of the Month

## Written by Nature

There is a lot to celebrate in April and our book selections celebrate two of them, Poetry Month and Earth Month.

With the theme of this month's books, we can't help but lean into the art of poetry for this month's corresponding project. To begin, review the different types of poetry presented in this month's book. If you are new to writing poetry you can always do additional research on what style of poem you feel would be best for you.

If you are unsure where to begin to look for inspiration, consider some of the options below as a starting point for sparking inspiration.

- Consider if you have a favorite location, either close to home or from a memorable trip
- Do you have a favorite flower, tree, or animal
- The four seasons: reflect on the change's nature goes through and how you feel during these moments, either positive or negative
- Visit the museum and write a poem based on a piece of art featuring nature
- Go for a nature walk: this could mean a walk in your neighborhood or exploring a path or hiking trail

As another starting point, consider jotting down the words or phrases that come to mind when thinking about your poem. Even if those initial thoughts don't make it into your final poem, it will help act as a written version of a sketch to get your mind going and possibly serve as inspiration for your final poem.

Once you've completed your poem if you wish to incorporate a drawn element there are a few ways to do so. You can create a larger, separate drawing to be paired with your poem. This would be a good option if your poem is inspired by a physical location, or you wish to create a sketch of an artwork that inspired you. If you wish to simplify the drawn element, you may add in small sketches representing elements of your poem. Having the text written in the middle of the paper would give you a natural boarder to then add in these drawn elements to accompany your poem.

Don't forget to share your work with us using #LymanAllynAtHome!



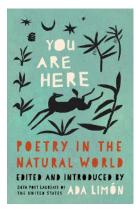




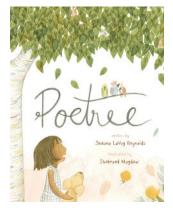




## **April 2025**



Our adult book is a collection of fifty previously unpublished poems by a variety of our nation's accomplished poets. Edited and introduced by the twenty-fourth Poet Laureate of the United States Ada Limón, the collection gives the reader a sense of the wide range of voices and landscapes we have across the nation.



Younger readers will follow the journey of a young poet Sylvia, who's inspired by the arrival of spring. When she leaves her poem on her favorite tree, she's surprised to find the next day that a new poem hangs in its place. With her debut book, Shauna LaVoy Reynolds introduces poetry to a new generation while Shahrzad Maydani's illustrations bring color and life to the text.