

# 50 Classic Poems of Desire, Longing, and Devotion



## Love Found: 50 Classic Poems of Desire, Longing, and Devotion by T. S. Eliot

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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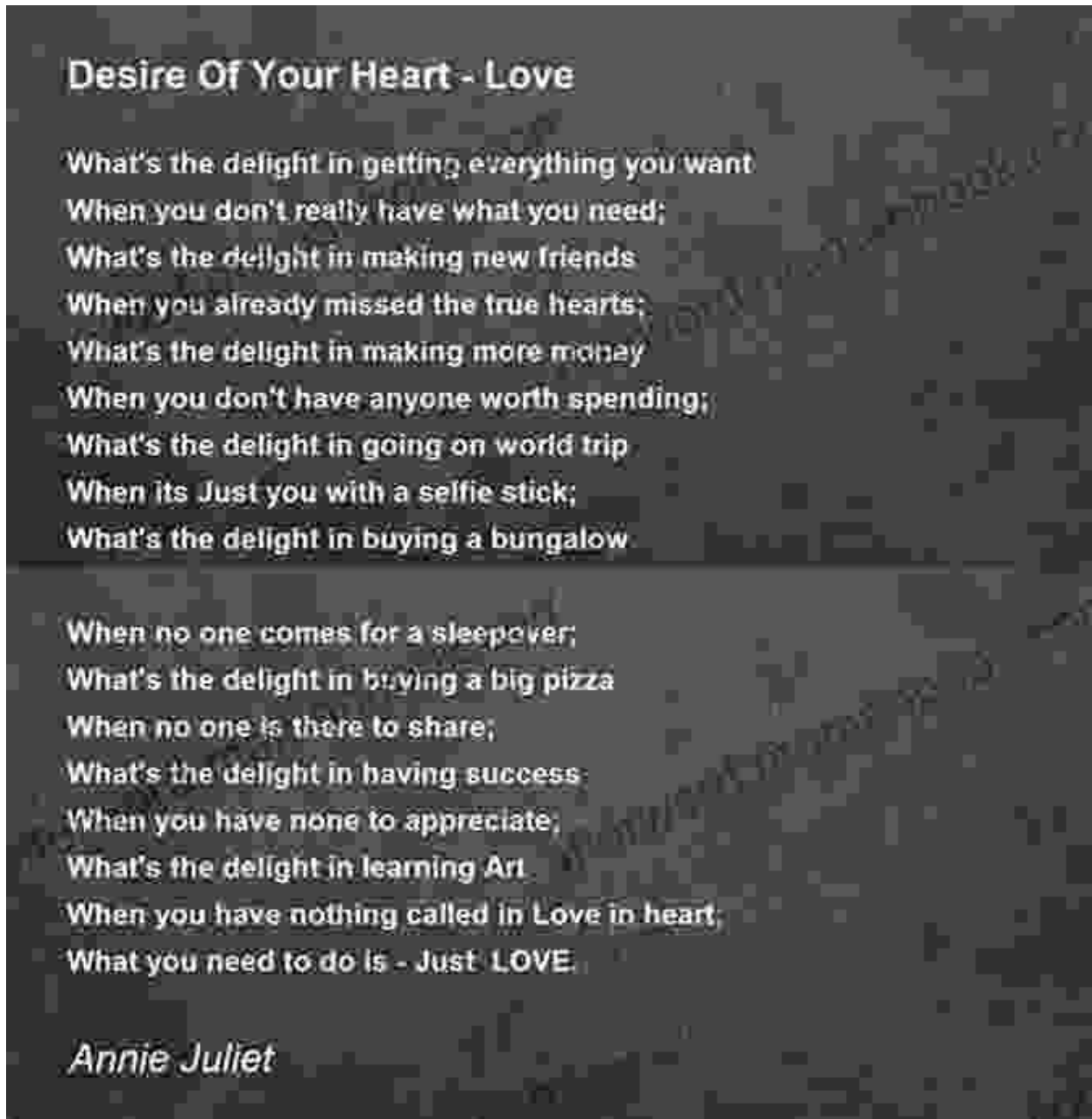
## An Exploration of the Heart's Yearnings

From the depths of time, poets have poured their souls into capturing the unfathomable emotions of desire, longing, and devotion. Through words both exquisite and raw, they have painted vivid portraits of the heart's yearnings. This curated collection of 50 classic poems delves into the profound depths of human emotion, offering a testament to the timeless nature of our deepest longings.

## Desire's Alluring Embrace

Desire, with its tantalizing allure and consuming intensity, has inspired countless poets throughout history. These poems explore the throbbing pulse of desire, its intoxicating embrace, and the bittersweet pain it can leave in its wake.

1. *Sonnet 18* by William Shakespeare



2. *La Belle Dame sans Merci* by John Keats

# Unrequited Love

I would have a thousand times  
Wished you were not so kind  
If I could have a thousand times  
I would have a thousand times

It is so wonderful to please the heart,  
And to be loved by you is to be glad,  
To be loved by you is to be glad,  
And to be loved by you is to be glad

My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you

My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you,  
My heart is full of love for you

I have this love from the love  
A love that could never be  
A love that could never be  
A love that could never be

I have this love from the love  
A love that could never be  
A love that could never be  
A love that could never be

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3. *I Will Not Let You Go* by Emily Dickinson

## **Refusal**

**Beloved,  
In what other lives or lands  
Have I known your lips  
Your Hands  
Your Laughter brave  
Irreverent.  
Those sweet excesses that  
I do adore.**

**What surety is there  
That we will meet again,  
On other worlds some  
Future time undated.  
I defy my body's haste.  
Without the promise  
Of one more sweet encounter  
I will not deign to die.**

*Maya Angelou*

4. *Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night* by Dylan Thomas

# GO TO THE LIMITS OF YOUR LONGING

God speaks to each of us as he makes us,  
then walks with us silently out of the night.

These are the words we dimly hear:

You, come out beyond your recall,  
go to the limits of your longing.  
Embody me.

Flare up like a fire  
and make big shadows I can move in.

Let everything happen to you beauty and terror,  
just keep going. No feeling is final.

Don't let yourself lose me.

Nearby in the country they call life,  
You will know it by its loneliness.

Give me your hand.

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RAINER MARIA RILKE

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## 5. *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* by T.S. Eliot

# The Road of Life

There are two roads ahead  
Each taking me to a different wave  
One looks paved, I can survive without another's aid  
Others have crossed it, I know there are no threats  
Why bother facing my fears?  
Fear of being in tears  
Fear of being lost  
Fear of those gloomy nights

What's wrong with this vision of mine?

Once that question is asked  
The other road gets cast  
The road of adventure, living like it's my last  
Beautiful views as I get past  
Scary shadows when there is an overcast  
I can be courageous and risk it all  
Knowing I've enjoyed every moment of my freefall

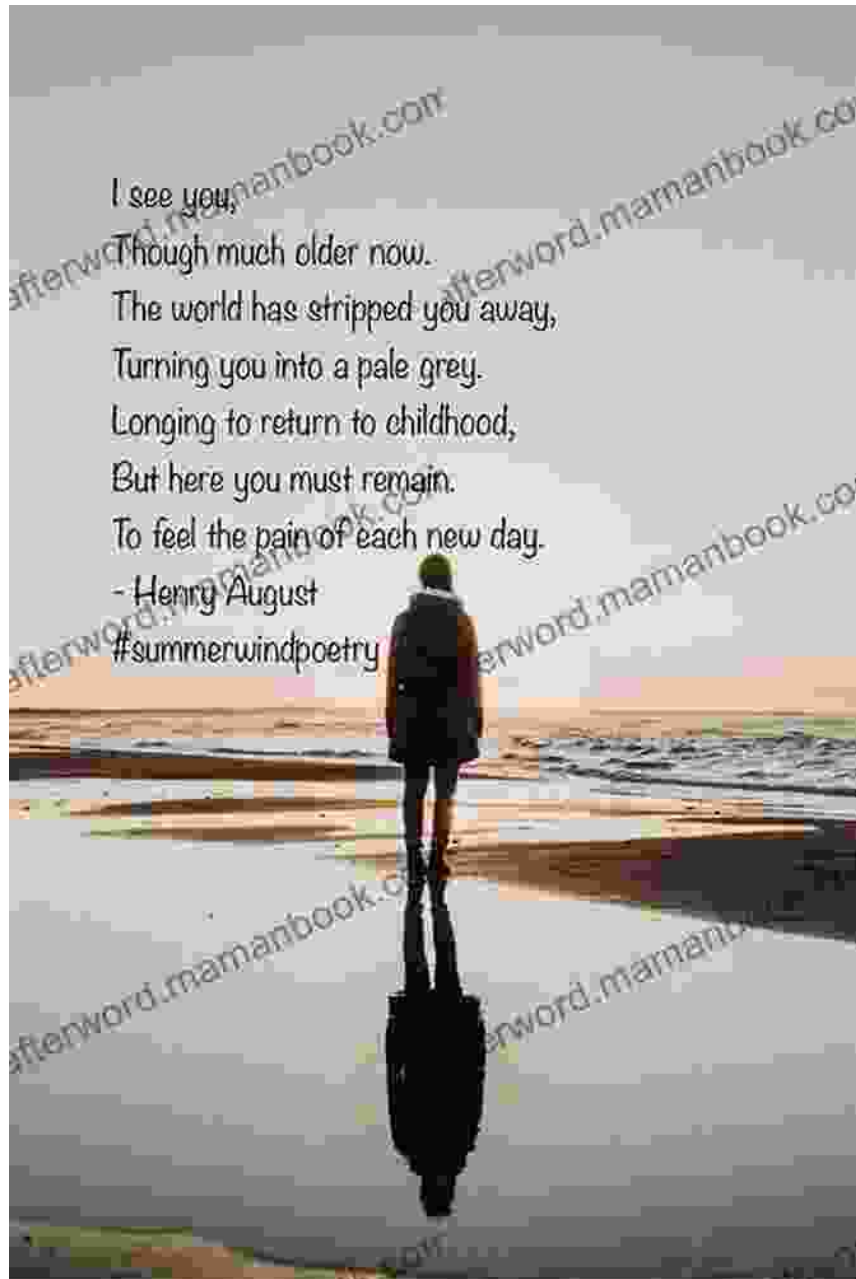
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## Longing's Heartfelt Cry

Longing, a bittersweet ache that gnaws at the soul, finds poignant expression in these poems. They speak to the enduring pain of unfulfilled dreams, the longing for a lost love, and the yearning for something more.

1. *Ode to a Nightingale* by John Keats



2. *Break, Break, Break* by Alfred, Lord Tennyson



## Long Past The Longing Hour, Love Poems

Long past the longing hour,  
as the shades of you drape my sullen frame,  
I have emptied all into you  
and washed you with my breath.

You left long before that hour  
to retrace your steps back to a former life  
that is no more to you

mere inflections of emotions lost long  
as you walk that familiar path  
or the one leading you back to me.

*Captain Cur*

3. *A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal* by William Wordsworth



# WHEN I LOST YOU

I wish I could see you one more time,

Come walking through the door...

But I know that is impossible,

I will hear your voice no more.

I know you can feel my tears

And you don't want me to cry,

Yet my heart is broken because

I can't understand why someone

So precious had to die.

I pray that God will give me strength

And somehow get me through...

As I struggle with the heartache

That came When I Lost You.

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4. *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* by Robert Frost

## **Longing For Peace**

**I long for that beyond my reach  
yet out of view along the beach**

**and it may be just out of sight  
there in the haze a distant light**

**I seek a shore where men are free  
where I might find serenity**

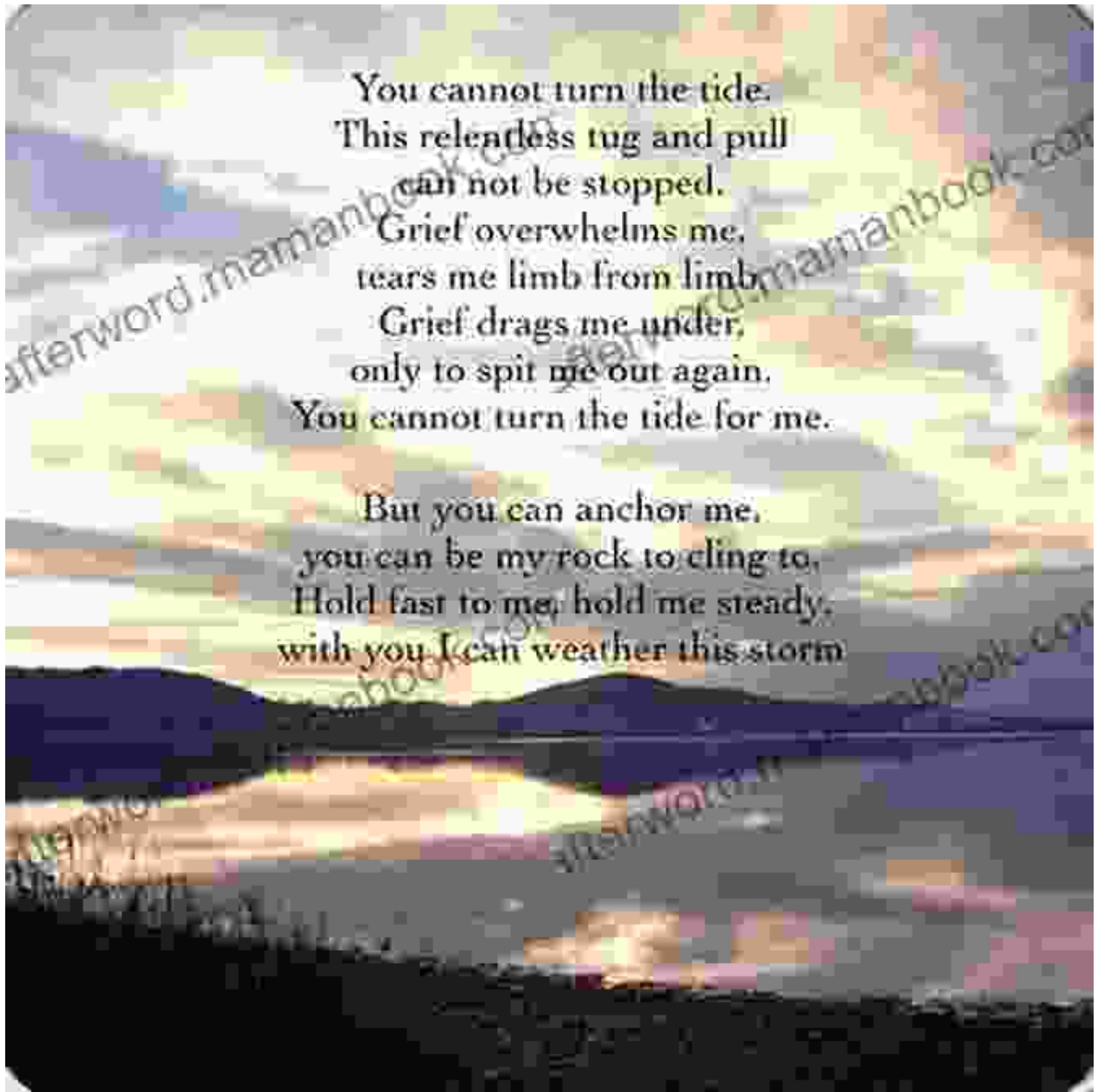
**a secret glade awaits me there  
a haven safe from all despair**

**so there beneath the palms I pause  
remote from man's contentious laws**

**and there my soul attains release  
a tropic wind and captured peace**

*Barry Middleton*

5. *The Raven* by Edgar Allan Poe



## Devotion's Unwavering Flame

Devotion, a profound and abiding connection, is celebrated in these poems. They explore the unwavering love and loyalty that binds souls together, the selfless acts of sacrifice, and the unwavering faithfulness that transcends all obstacles.

1. *Sonnet 29* by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

## **Devotion And Love.**

**Love and devotion are based on reality  
For love must increase as each day goes by  
And true love knows no set regularity  
Unless it increases it must surely die.**

**Life must go on, at whatever the cost  
Heartaches and tears are all part of the game  
And life a gamble, to be won...or lost  
And true love something more than mere name,**

**So be faithfull and tender, strong yet forgiving  
Be true to each other  
Have faith, never fall  
And together you'll find the joy to be living,  
And loving, for love is the best gift of all.**

***Jeff Stoddart***

2. *How Do I Love Thee?* by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

## My Devotion

If pain were your compassion  
And tears the joy I had.  
If tormenting me became your life  
And my suffering made you glad.

Were hard drugs your slow undoing,  
Deceit your calling card.  
If your heart was bound in sorrow  
And your passions frozen hard.

Were your touch not soft or gentle,  
Your kiss both cold and blue.  
And your arms reserved for strangers  
on some distant avenue.

If time forgot to soothe my pain  
And you just walked away.  
And if you chose another heart  
On our solemn wedding day.

It may be too much sorrow  
And much too many tears.  
But it's not enough to quell my love  
My devotion through the years.

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### 3. *I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud* by William Wordsworth



**Click Here To Listen To The Beauty Of Nature**  
**The Beauty Of Nature**

The falling of snowflakes coming down  
Making a blanket of white on the ground.  
Autumn with red and gold-leaves,  
Falling to the ground, in a cool breeze  
The rising of the sun of crimson,  
A buzzing of the Bees,  
As they go on their mission.  
A cool-breeze blowing in the trees.

The beautiful- flowers of red, yellow, and blue,  
The sparkling of grass, with morning-dew.  
The sea is beautiful, with Blue-sky above.  
The flying of sea-gulls and of doves,  
The birds singing up in the trees,  
As a gentle-wind blows the green-leaves.  
Beautiful-butterflies going their way.  
The beauty of nature, really make my day!

*Winifred Bullard*

4. *Ode to My Nightingale* by John Keats

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*Winifred Bullard*

5. *When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be* by John Keats



## The Fear Of Death

My best years of life in the past and long gone  
But 'tis the fear of death makes us want to live on  
Old age is a punishment as some do say  
But for each one of us there's a last night and day  
To the betterment of society I don't have much to give  
But 'tis the fear of death that makes me want to live  
Though for the good a blissful life after bodily death we so often do hear  
But the fear of the unknown is not an unfounded fear  
I want to live on for as long as I can

For to die in my sleep as a very old man  
To nod off to forever without any pain  
And to never be seen or remembered again  
Of a blissful life after death for the good we do hear  
But the fear of the unknown is what I do fear.

*Francis Duggan*

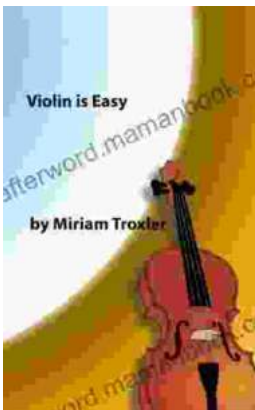
These 50 classic poems offer a timeless exploration of the tumultuous and enduring emotions that shape the human experience. They delve into the depths of desire, longing, and devotion, illuminating the intricate tapestry of our hearts. Whether it is the intoxicating embrace of desire, the soul-wrenching pain of longing, or the unwavering flame of devotion, these poems capture the essence of our humanity and remind us that we are not alone in our deepest longings.



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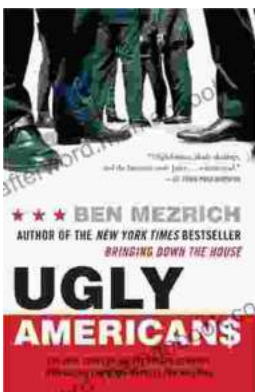
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