



Courage: Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls

Karen Finneyfrock (Editor) , Mindy Nettifee (Editor) , Rachel McKibbens (Editor)

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A collection of fierce, empowering poems by living, self-identified women writers intended for girls age 12-21. Full of advice, critique, reflection, commiseration, humor, sorrow and rage, this anthology includes poems by some of the most exciting female poets writing and performing today. *Courage; Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls* will live in lockers, backpacks and under beds for years, its pages reblogged, tattooed, dog-eared and coffee stained.

Courage: Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls Details

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From Reader Review **Courage: Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls** for online ebook

Colleenish says

I found this anthology at a bookstore and couldn't put it down. It's everything poems should be, startling and beautiful. A very modern collection of poems about today's problems. I can't wait to lend it out.

Ros says

Such a good anthology of poems! These poems are very modern and bring with them all sorts of emotion.

Some are more though invoking than others, some are happy and some are just straight witty. These poems bring with them empowerment for young ladies.

I have read this now many times as a young adult and I believe that I will read this again many more times, with a different outlook on life.

I expected cheesy poems with the description being for girls aged 12-21 but was very pleasantly surprised.

Kayla says

If you are a woman, read this.

If you are a daughter, read this.

If you are have a daughter, read this.

If there is a woman in your life whom you love, read this, and tell her to read it, too.

?? says

I like this book for numerous reasons. First of all, it is intersectional, and includes women of color. That's something I desperately need as a feminist. The poems were well-written and strong. I felt the power of each word and wanted to give a hug to each poetess in the book. **Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls** is not only for adolescent girls, but also for grownup women who couldn't have such a guide when growing up. It is for mothers, aunts, friends, godmothers and neighbors who know a struggling girl. That's a perfect gift for your adolescent niece, daughter, granddaughter or your friend's daughter.

Christine Gaza says

I thought the title of this book was going to lend itself to "cheesy" poetry about girls, or if not cheesy, just young poetry. That was definitely not the case. Some of our best female slam poets are listed in this book. Definitely a book where you could read the poems as a young adult and then again as an adult and get an entirely different experience.

Phoebe Andamo says

First, let me tell you how wonderful this book looks like. It has colorful matte book cover which I endlessly slide my hands over so often. The paper is smooth, thick, and pretty. Second, it says that one tree is planted in exchange of this book. (I think every book from Write Bloody Publishing is like this and I should stop this obsession before it goes out of hand). Lastly, the main part, I love the whole anthology and authors' idea of gathering thoughts and experiences which constitutes **courage** as a charm to be tucked in every girl's pockets. I wish I read something like this when I was a teenager.

The book is divided into: Made of Lightning (On Body and Identity); The Hurricane Sermons (On Endurance and Truth); For Teeth (On Power and Protection); How To Eat Sugarcane (On Love and Loss, From The Echo Chamber (On Being and Becoming); Bloodline (On Family and Faith); Mirror Anthems (On Esteem and Exposure); and The Wild Language of Stars (On Healing and Living).

I am partial with the poems of Andrea Gibson and Sarah Kay because I'm a fan of them. Besides their poems, here are some of my personal favorites in the collection:

My Girls by Hollis Wong-Wear
The First Time I Hit A Boy by Mindy Nettifee
The Thing I Said That During Gym by Shaney Jean Maney
December by Erica Fabri
In Case You Ever Need It, It Is Here by Daphne Gottlieb
Remembering the Night We Met by Cristin o'keefe aptowicz
Dear Mom by Fatimah Asghar
Etymology of the Beauty Shop by Jamila Woods
Firefly by Sarah Brickman
Bloom by Tara Hardy
Girl with Red Bicycle by Gypsee Yo (Jonida Beqo)

D. George says

First, who knew that the actress Amber Tamblyn (The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants also wrote poetry?

Second, I agree with other reviewers who say that this book is not really for young girls. Maybe an older, mature teenager, but not someone in middle school. The poems are indeed "daring" and cover topics that might be too difficult to understand.

However, older females should definitely read these and keep them nearby.

Standout poems to me included "Should bein Jimi Savannah" by Patricia Smith, about using a name to keep a girl "feminine"; "My Girls" by Hollis Wong-Wear, which is very prescient to the Me Too campaign happening now; and "The Nutritionist" by Andrea Gibson, about trying to find wellness, and which is not really well titled. The last one is especially poignant to me as I grapple with my own illnesses.

The pacing of the poetry, and the sections, is good. It flowed very well for me.

My biggest complaint was the formatting; it wasn't consistent throughout the book. Most people won't even notice those things, for instance that some of the author's names are italicized and some are not, but it bugs me!

Lorin Elizabeth says

A raw collection of poems from Write Bloody Publishing that you should definitely buy for the teen in your life (or your 27yo self.)

There's no coddling or censorship here. There's lots on the wonder and pain of growing + dreamy section titles like "The Hurricane Sermons: On Endurance and Truths".

Patricia Smith's spitfire and imagery-loaded "Shoulda Been Jimmi Savannah" & "13 Ways of Looking At 13" are the ones that stuck.

"from the time you stumbled through the rhythm/and she slow-smiled, you suddenly knew you had the right/to be explosive, to sling syllables through back doors, to make up your own damned words just when you needed them" - Patricia Smith

Christina says

This anthology is a wonderful collection of inspiring, mind-expanding, and honest poems. I wish I had this when I was younger, but anyone who was ever a woman-identified human growing up and looking for guidance will find something in these pages.

Stephanie says

You know you've read a good poetry book when you can relate to most of the poems. When they shed light on the darkest part of your mind and then remind you that you are human and that there is someone out there that feels the same way. You are not alone. And then you have those poems that just leave you screaming "YYAAAASSSSS!!!!" because it hit you deep in the soul. That was this book and the writers that contributed to it.

Great read. Great talent. Great job guys!

Elizabeth says

I didn't love every poem, but there were definitely a few that struck me, and that was the point of the book. I even have a new favorite poet to follow now.

Laura Tarasoff says

Daring is a good description for this collection of poetry. Thought provoking and discussable topics make this an ideal collection for anyone wanting to open the table to what being gutsy really means. There are no forbidden topics in this collection. No soft cushions or glittery endings here. If you are looking for poetry to encourage young women to be overcomers, this is ideal. If you are looking for poetry that is as real as your real life, there is something here for you.

Sandy says

C'è da dire che Poesie per ragazze di grazia e di fuoco è un'altalena emotiva che dipinge con pennellate rozze una matassa di luci e ombre, accentuando l'una e l'altra senza esclusione di colpi, è questo che rende la lettura sublime, il sapere che c'è una o più di una poesia che racconta o che ha raccontato una parte importante di noi.

allisonwonderland says

An inspirational, thought-provoking and emotional book of poetry from a group of women poets and spoken word artists. Meant to empower and support others, the poems explore: power, love and loss, body and identity, healing, sexuality, esteem and exposure, all from the perspective of a girl, teenager or woman.

Some of my favourite lines; enjoy.

"some days i call my arms 'wings'
while my head is in the clouds."

"there isn't a man alive who could undo me"

"this is what it was to be blessed-
to know a love that was beyond owning, beyond the body and its needs, but instead went
straight from wild thing to wild thing."

"I am picking everyone first
even the worst kid
and the kid with the stutter
like a skipping record

because I know all of us are scratched,
even if you can't hear it when we speak."

"I am wild as bees and you cannot make a pet of me."

"explain the word power to me
tell me why you feel so small."

"As soon as we slip into this world they stand us on a pad of ink and then a pad of paper. But
Little Sister, this is not the only mark you were ever meant to make."

Cherry says

I read this for teenage me. A few years later than I needed, but to send these powerful thoughts and messages
back in time to who I was is very comforting.
