



## Two Cures for Love: Selected Poems, 1979-2006

*Wendy Cope*

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## **Two Cures for Love: Selected Poems, 1979-2006** Wendy Cope

The idea for this book grew out of Wendy Cope's experience of meeting her audience, when reading her poems in schools. This is an edition of the poems which identifies the references, verse-forms, contexts and occasions of her work, and which offers readers a new arrangement of the poetry as a whole. The notes also identify dates of composition, so that it is possible to observe the development of her work. As well as drawing on Wendy Cope's three published books, the selection also includes a significant number of poems collected or published for the first time.

## **Two Cures for Love: Selected Poems, 1979-2006 Details**

Date : Published February 5th 2009 by Faber Faber (first published June 5th 2008)

ISBN : 9780571240791

Author : Wendy Cope

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## From Reader Review Two Cures for Love: Selected Poems, 1979-2006 for online ebook

### Ivor says

Short and entertaining book of poems

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### Angela Ferguson says

A top selection of Wendy Cope poems. I particularly like Loss, with Wendy's witty aside about going through hell after a break up - simply because he took the corkscrew! Also love the very appropriate poem entitled Valentine.

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### Tamara says

One of my favourite book-based memories occurred during the reading of this one, in which I was perched on the window ledge/sill of my hotel room overlooking a night-time Paddington and delighting in this collection of poems. And it was during a poem called "Valentine" that I had a nice epiphany about my own heart, confirmed by a re-read of "After the Lunch."

*...the jukebox inside me is playing a song.*

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### Xueting says

I think I would enjoy Wendy Cope's poems waaaay more if I am more aware of the poets (or some other famous people) and their styles that she parodies, since a large portion of her poems are parodies. But those that I can fully appreciate and the poems that aren't generally parodies are enjoyable and interesting poems!

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### Victoria says

Even if you don't like poetry, you must read this book. It is so very clever, heartfelt and downright funny.

Examples:

Two Cures for Love

1. Don't see him. Don't phone or write a letter.
2. The easy way: get to know him better.

or

Loss

The day he moved out was terrible —  
That evening she went through hell.  
His absence wasn't a problem  
But the corkscrew had gone as well.

It also doesn't hurt that this book was given to me by a 30-year friend, Naomi Howell.

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### **Rachel says**

Hmm. I am not sure where I stand in my opinion of Cope. (Also, this was a very sparse selection of poems on which to formulate an opinion. And expensive, too, at 9.50. Not impressed.) I liked Valentine and Being Boring, but I liked those before I read this anthology, so the value-added is ... zero. She can be clever and witty when it comes to love and cynicism, but anything else leaves her grasping. Although that could be my bias against nature-poetry (YUCK) showing.

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### **Paul Doody says**

Wonderfully witty poetry from one of our best poets.

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### **Colleen says**

Wow. I even added a new shelf for this one :o) (Adult Poetry)

Thank you Sarah!! I never would have picked this up if you didn't post The Orange on Facebook. I am not a poetry girl and hate having to try to find meaning in everything I read. This little volume was completely enjoyable, and I really enjoyed about 80% of the poems. I think this is actually the first "real" adult poetry book I have attempted. (I still think Where the Sidewalk Ends counts as well).

This took up two pages of notes and jottings in my reading log. I particularly appreciated the forward that mentions her poems being used for teaching and how she went to the class once. They were doing all these interpretations of them, and she was trying to tell them that's not what they meant. They wouldn't understand - it goes to show you that sometimes an author is just writing what they are writing! That must have been so frustrating.

The notes section at the end was quite beneficial. It was interesting to look at the poems I liked and see a little back story on them.

Some of my favorites:

The Sitter

Names

The Orange

Faint Praise

Being Boring  
Spared  
Reading Scheme  
Making Cocoa for Kingsley Amis  
Kindness to Animals

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### **Inken says**

It's really impossible to say you've finished reading a poetry book because let's face it, you never finish :-). Especially one as witty, funny, moving and smart as Wendy Cope's collection.

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### **Francesca says**

I absolutely loved this collection of poems. It's honest, funny, serious, all at the same time. I definitely recommend it, even if you're not a massive poetry-reader.

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### **Anca says**

I've read this while taking a long hot bath on an ordinary Monday. Today - 31st October 2011. This book made my day today.

"My heart has made up its mind  
And I'm afraid it's you"

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### **Vanessa says**

Poetry collections can be a real hit or miss for me. This one landed fairly in the middle. At times it teetered into the 3.5 star category, but by the end of it I felt satisfied with 3. I think the main issue I took from this was that Wendy Cope likes to write poems in the style of other poets and parody them - not a problem in itself, but if you are not well-versed (excuse the pun) in that poet's work/style, it'll probably pass you by. That was my experience anyway. Saying all that though, there are a lot of poems in here that I marked with my annotating pen as great, ones to come back to. I liked Cope's dry wit, reminiscent of some of Dorothy Parker's work both in the style of humour and the tendency towards rhyming. Some of my favourites were *Bloody Men*, *Being Boring*, *Exchange of Letters*, and *An Attempt at Unrhymed Verse* (amongst others). Definitely worth a read if you like light, funny, rhyming poetry that doesn't take itself too seriously.

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### **g026r says**

There are some brilliant literary parodies here — spot-on in their satirizing — and there's a definite ingenuity to some of the pieces. But, at the same time, I admit to a bias against light verse and I just can't help but feel

unfulfilled after reading it.

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### **Sahir D'souza. says**

Wendy Cope's poetry is wonderful stuff. Some of it is obscure or strange (witness 'Some More Light Verse'), but a lot of it is lovely. There are so many nice ones, it's hard to pick favourites. 'Kindness to Animals' and 'An Attempt at Unrhymed Verse' are especially funny. 'Valentine' and 'Being Boring' are sweet and also the first two Wendy Cope poems I ever read, which prompted me to buy this book. 'Flowers' and 'The Orange' are warm love poems. But there are so, so many more waiting to be read. I recommend that you get your hands on a copy – not borrowed, but bought, for posterity.

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### **Laura Macdonald says**

My favourite living poet. This is just a wonderful collection. You can read it just as a funny set of poems talking about life and live in a lighthearted manner and then re-read it and delve underneath for the depth and emotion. If I could write like one person, I would choose Wendy Cope.

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