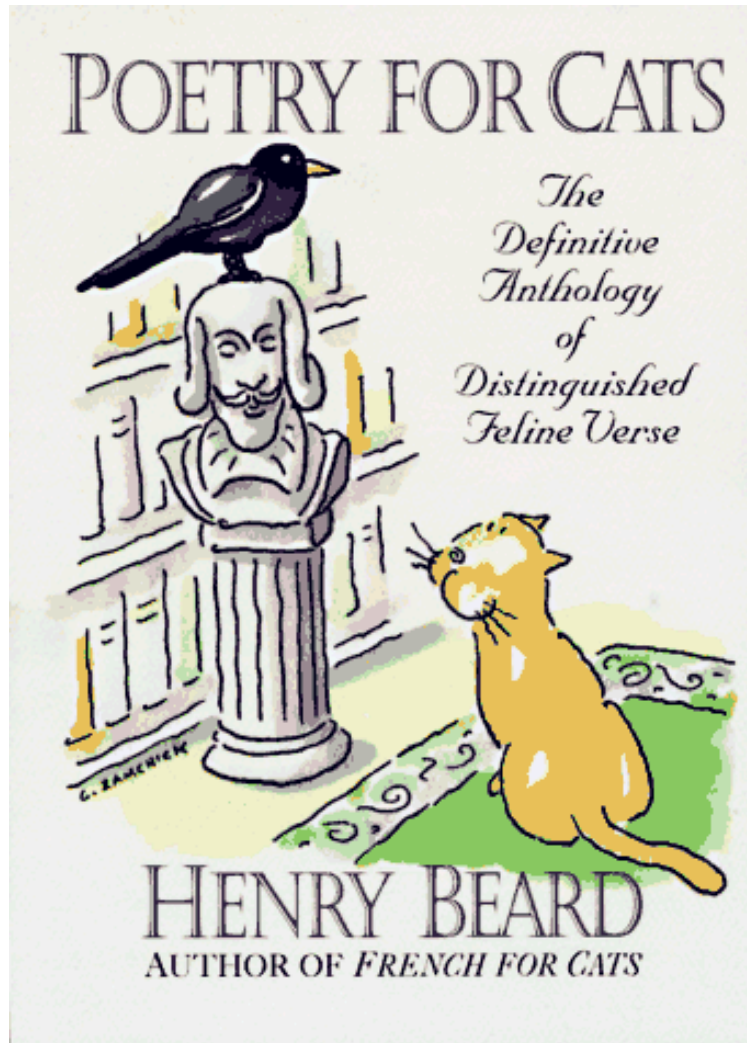


## Poetry for Cats: The Definitive Anthology of Distinguished Feline Verse

Henry Beard

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**Henry Beard : Poetry for Cats: The Definitive Anthology of Distinguished Feline Verse** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Poetry for Cats: The Definitive Anthology of Distinguished Feline Verse:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A true classic By M. Landau This is one of the funniest things I've read in years. Beard, as usual, is masterful in his parody. In this case he takes on great poetry ranging from "Beowulf" to "Xanadu" to "Song of Myself" and "Howl", not to mention every age and genre in between. Not only is the parody marvellous, but Beard captures the very soul and essence of the cat. (If you read nothing else, read "The End of

the Raven")As if that weren't enough, the book has also made me go back and reread many of the original works, most of which I haven't looked at in years, some of which I'd never read. Who knew that "The Emperor of Tuna Fish" would lead me to a deeper appreciation for the original work, "The Emperor of Ice Cream"?If you like poetry, or you like cats, or you like poetry written by cats, read this book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Truly the "Definitive Anthology" ... and delightfulBy hey youThis is a great book. I own two copies: one to keep, one to lend. The poems are parodies of those typically read in school, so most readers should understand the allusions. Even if you don't know the original poem, though, the author has such a brilliant ear for language (and such an obvious love and appreciation for cats), that you are sure to smile all the same.The humor is sly and gentle, the illustrations sweet, the poetry awesome. "How do I break thee? Let me count the ways." (That's the first line of "To A Vase," by Elizabeth Barrett Browning's cat.) "I situate myself, and seat myself, / And where you recline I shall recline, / For every armchair belonging to you as good as belongs to me." (by Walt Whitman's cat)If you like cats but don't know any poetry, you will smile at this book for the perfect understanding the author has for cats. If you like poetry but not cats (although I don't know how that can be possible), you will laugh a lot at the truly impressive poetic parodies. If you like both poetry and cats, you will be so delighted that you will buy copies for all of your poetry-appreciating, cat-loving friends.A classic.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Classic Poetry from a Cat's Point of ViewBy CarolAn oldie but goodie. Henry Beard does a marvelous job transforming those beloved hoary old chestnuts that English Literature students are so very familiar with into witty, amusing poems from a cat's point of view. Who could not love "a host of cottontails" in place of daffodils or "a barking blight" in place of a tyger burning bright? Two thumbs up for this little book.

In the vein of his bestselling French for Cats, Henry Beard has assembled a brilliant anthology of treasured works by feline poets. Includes "Do Not Go Gentle to That Damned Vet" by Dylan Thomas's cat, "The Human" by Edgar Allan Poe's cat and other works. Poetry for Cats will prove as thrilling as a stiff shot of catnip. Color illustrations.

.com Even if you don't like cats--or poetry--you'll be tickled by the contents of Henry Beard's Poetry for Cats. Beard has already demonstrated his command of French in previous books, French for Cats and Advanced French for Exceptional Cats. Now he shows off his extraordinary skills as a parodist. Consider, for example, "Grendel's Dog," from "Beocat": . . . Then boasted Beocat, noble battle-kitten, Bane of barrow-bunnies, bold seeker of nest-booty: . . . I would lay the whelping low with lethal claw-blows; Fur would fly and the foe would taste death-food . . . Or, from a later period, William Blake's cat's poem, "The Mongrel": Mongrel! Mongrel! Barking blight, Bane upon my yard at night; What infernal hand or eye, Could frame thy vile anatomy? Beard is obviously at home with poetry of many genres, from ancient odes to modern blank verse. These poems are fun even if you don't know the original sources; if you do, they are sublime.From the Inside FlapIn the vein of his bestselling French for Cats, Henry Beard has assembled a brilliant anthology of treasured works by feline poets. Includes "Do Not Go Gentle to That Damned Vet" by Dylan Thomas's cat, "The Human" by Edgar Allan Poe's cat and other works. Poetry for Cats will prove as thrilling as a stiff shot of catnip. Color illustrations.