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**Mark Doty**

**Fire to Fire**



Title: Fire to Fire

Author: Mark Doty

Format: Hardcover

Language: English

Pages: 336

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0060752475

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 6.7 MB

Download: allowed

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## Description

Mark Doty's *Fire to Fire* collects the best of Mark Doty's seven books of poetry, along with a generous selection of new work. Doty's subjects—our mortal situation, the evanescent beauty of the world, desire's transformative power, and art's ability to give shape to human lives—echo and develop across twenty years of poems. His signature style encompasses both the plainspoken and the artfully wrought; here one of contemporary American poetry's most lauded, recognizable voices speaks to the crises and possibilities of our times.

## Insightful reviews

Malcolm: I've read many of these poems earlier in Mark Doty's prior books but the new poems in this volume were all new to me. Some of them I liked quite a bit, some were challenging reads, some were shocking, and some were not poetic to me. The non-poetic poems read more like prose that were divided into short lines, and I began to wonder if Doty is so accomplished as a writer that his only remaining pursuit is to experiment with form. And who knows, perhaps in some not-too distant future these poems will become the bellwether of a new poetics in the world.

Sue: This is a gorgeous collection & certainly deserves the National Book Award prize! I've spent about 4 months slowly savoring the book. It's like reading Doty's biography as he presents poetry about being gay, having a lover, watching his lover & many, many friends die. He also shares his love for all his dogs and the sadness of their old age & eventual deaths(which he wrote beautifully about in his recent biographical book, *Dog Years*. Toward the end of the collection poems appear about a new partner & a chance at a new life. All in all I loved loved this book! Take your time reading it, it should go thoughtfully.

Brad: *Fire to Fire* is a collection of both new poems by Doty and select favorites from his previous works spanning from his early work to his present.

Mark Doty fans will not be disappointed with this volume. Seeing the comparison of themes and content of his various work is a joy.

With his poignant, beautiful and flowing use of the written word Doty manages to give us a view into his unique observations of life and the world covering subject matter both benign and poignant. For these reasons, *Fire to Fire* has further affirmed that Doty continues to be one my favorite poet.

Psycho Kanev: Doty's prestige as indifferent observer to his personal paintings was once considerably advanced through this volume, *hearth to Fire*, his so much profitable yet. Mark Doty is likely one of the best poets in the United States this day and is aware his manner with words, with words that light up his stances, with defining feelings inaudible to so much of us. He led me lightly someplace i will make that means in a way more own context. a technique he does this, I believe, is via giving the reader emotional distance through the use of metaphors so deftly and so subtly. The reader unearths attractiveness even within the darkest places. So, this

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isn't college workshop stuff. It comes from the surface international of a number of cities, cities and lifestyles itself. In an interview with poet Mark Wunderlich released within the Cortland Review, Doty was once requested why he proposal poetry continued as an artwork form. He answered: "My bet is that by some means poetry is a vessel for the expression of subjectivity not like any other; an exceptional poem bears the stamp of person personality in a fashion that turns out to usher us into the unmistakably idiosyncratic perceptual variety of the writer. i believe we're hungry for singularity, for these features of self that aren't commodifiable, can't be marketed. In an age marked by way of homogenization, through the manipulation of hope on an international level...poetry may possibly symbolize the resolutely particular experience. The dominant paintings different types of our day—film, video, architecture—are collaborative arts; they require a staff of makers. Poems are continuously made alone, someplace out at the fringe of things, and in the event that they be triumphant they're saturated with the feel of the uniquely felt life."

Richard: Doty has a magnificent mastery of a variety of material: animal poems (MOST certainly the puppy poem), nature poems, nature poems of town setting, death. Take Emily Dickinson and Mary Oliver with Miles Davis as a donor father, and also you now have their bastard child, for whereas Doty's dealing with is of the maximum seriousness, there's a love and play of language and rhythm and sound that infuses via it all. i need to admit that examining a host at a stretch, as i'm a Sandy refugee hiding away within the Adirondacks at this time, that Doty's procedure turned a bit apparent--presentation of the rapid topic matter, after which occasionally (almost mechanically) i might expect the become the metaphor, which occasionally got here correct on cue, which deflated a few of the magic at times, yet that's not at all much to gripe approximately and as an alternative should be a word of envy.

Stephanie Edwards: i've got a love hate courting with this book. As for the hot poems, a few of them are relatively beautiful. My favorites have been "Pipistrelle," "The Word," "In the Airport Marshes," "Apparition (favorite poem)," "Citizens" and "And Angel of Prague." However, i used to be now not in love with the eleven poems whose titles started with the notice "Theory." As to the chosen poems from outdated books-I cherished the poems from Atlantis (1995) the best. I additionally loved many from My Alexandria (1993) and from candy computing device (1998). a few of his poems in class of the humanities (2005), quite The Vault the place he grotesquely makes use of an allusion to my favourite poem, "The Blessing" by means of James Wright, troubled me a lot.

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