



The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1)

Michelle Heidenrich Barnes

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Today's Little Ditty is more than a children's poetry blog, it's a poetry playground. Each month, a vibrant community of writers, teachers, librarians, and poetry-appreciators gathers to take part in the Ditty of the Month Club (DMC). Writing to prompts by successful authors and editors, they participate for the camaraderie, and for the joy and craft of writing poetry.

In *The Best of Today's Little Ditty, 2014-2015*, thirteen "ditty" challenges by contemporary children's authors, including Nikki Grimes, Lee Bennett Hopkins, J. Patrick Lewis, Joyce Sidman, Margarita Engle, Kwame Alexander, and others, have inspired these 75 poems, deemed "best" by their peers. They range from lighthearted to thought-provoking and appeal to a wide audience, from children to adults. Join the fun at michellehbarnes.blogspot.com.

What people are saying about *Today's Little Ditty* and the Ditty of the Month Club:

“ ‘Poetry is prose, bent out of shape,’ I like to say, and for proof, you need only connect with Michelle Heidenrich Barnes’s Ditty of the Month Club, where children’s poets are busy flexing their poetic muscles through the use of various verse forms. They are not showing off; they’re practicing. And they invite you to do the same.”

— *J. Patrick Lewis*, former U.S. Children’s Poet Laureate (2011-2013) and recipient of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children

“The Ditty of the Month Club . . . gives my students a way to participate and be celebrated as practicing poets.”

— *Margaret G. Simon*, teacher of gifted studies and recipient of the 2014 NCTE Donald H. Graves Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Writing

“*Today's Little Ditty* is an amazing resource in the blogging community of poetry for young people with more than 500 posts that invite us to learn, try, pause, write, celebrate, read, think, and revel in poetry and all it has to offer us in our uber-busy lives.”

— *Dr. Sylvia Vardell*, professor of children’s literature at Texas Woman’s University and recipient of the 2014 Scholastic Library Publishing Award for her work in the field

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From reader reviews:

Robert Thomas:

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Mary Salas:

Now a day folks who Living in the era where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each facts they get. How a lot more to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Looking at a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information mainly this The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) book because book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the information in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Jack Michaud:

The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into pleasure arrangement in writing The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) however doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial thinking.

Donna Dalessio:

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