



and sometimes haunt us still. In this wonderful collection are not only the real dolls, but also dolls as metaphor. I am delighted to have a poem in this anthology with so many poets I admire (Chana Bloch, Kelly Cherry, Enid Shomer, J.C. Todd, and others) as well as poets I discovered here. Consider these intriguing titles: Chewed-on Barbie, The Pregnant Doll, Playing Drunks at Age 7, Burning the Dolls. There are male voices here, too, testifying to the significance of dolls either to them or to others. The Doll Collection makes a wonderful gift for a grandparent, a parent, a teenager. Or get this collection for yourself, and be reminded of the dolls in your own life.<sup>2</sup> of 2 people found the following review helpful. All kinds of dolls  
By Joan Mazza  
This terrific selection of poems about dolls includes them all from Barbie to custom-made love dolls for adults, Teddy bears, rag dolls and paper dolls. Each one explores the meaning and emotional significance of the personal relationships with dolls. The poetic styles are formal to free, with a range of mood and memory. This must-have assembly of doll poems makes them come alive instead of just lined up on shelves on a page. (Full disclosure: one of my poems appears in this collection, and I do not receive any proceeds from sales.)<sup>0</sup> of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly Recommended  
By Lori  
Honored to have a poem included in this collection, which features so many talented poets. The anthology is a surprising assortment of work that moves from the macabre to the hopeful, the rebellious to the melancholy. In her introduction, Nicole Cooley writes "Dolls are portals to our past and to ourselves" and that is exactly what the collection itself represents. There are poems about Barbies, Raggedy Anns, Matryoshkas, paper dolls, American Girl dolls, rat dolls, G.I. Joe dolls, doll houses and even a Frozen Charlotte doll that dies of cold. Some of the dolls have been chewed on, others burnt, others caught forever in museums or dreams. I was also impressed with the range of voices and forms, including several sonnets, a ghazal, a rap, a collaborative poem, a sestina and a sonnenizio (which I confess I'd never heard of before). As the former owner of my own motley collection of dolls, I found much to relate to and will definitely be rereading this collection.

Why do dolls compel us so much? What are their meanings? What lessons do they have to teach us? The Doll Collection explores these questions. This wonderful anthology of poems asks us to rethink dolls. Not just toys, dolls signify much more than childhood. Dolls shape our thinking about the female body, about race and class. Dolls influence our understanding of childhood. Symbols of perfection, they both comfort and terrify. Dolls represent, as Freud would say, the uncanny. They are replicas, simulacra, souvenirs and secrets. They are objects we recall with intense nostalgia but also bodies we dismember and destroy. They might be made of cornhusks, clay, rags, paper, cloth, wood, porcelain, celluloid, bisque, plastic, or metal. For centuries, dolls have taught us how to understand our world and are windows to other worlds. Dolls are portals to our pasts and to ourselves. Dolls open the doors to our imagination. (from the Introduction, by Nicole Cooley) The Doll Collection, the first anthology to focus on dolls, includes 88 poems by such poets as Michael Waters, Cecilia Woloch, Alice Friman, Lee Upton, Chana Bloch, Kelly Cherry, and Jeffrey Harrison.

Doll culture is much much more than doll as object, as this anthology excels in showing. The doll embodies cultural histories, which are more akin to Joseph Cornell's memory boxes than anything else. The doll also embodies emotional histories and traumas...With this fascinating collection, Diane Lockward has succeeded in editing an anthology that places the doll centre shelf in the poetic canon. --Deirdre Hines, Sabotage sDolls are small icons of memory and magic. They tell us much about ourselves--little vessels of love made of porcelain, wood, or plastic--bringing out all that is humane in us. These 88 poems imaging dolls have a surprising literary impact; because every kind of curiosity and caring is revealed--animating the inanimate. --Grace Cavalieri, The Washington Independent of Books, July 2016  
There are more themes in this anthology than I can possibly do justice to--abortion, fathers, doll-makers, paper dolls, doll hospitals, the Dionne quintes. . . Each selection is a masterpiece, and each--in its way--vivifies for us what Marjorie Tesser in "American Girl" calls the "glut of love." --Judy Swann, Mom Egg