



## Bright Dead Things: Poems

By Ada Limón

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### Bright Dead Things: Poems By Ada Limón

*Bright Dead Things* examines the chaos that is life, the dangerous thrill of living in a world you know you have to leave one day, and the search to find something that is ultimately “disorderly, and marvelous, and ours.”

A book of bravado and introspection, of 21st century feminist swagger and harrowing terror and loss, this fourth collection considers how we build our identities out of place and human contact—tracing in intimate detail the various ways the speaker’s sense of self both shifts and perseveres as she moves from New York City to rural Kentucky, loses a dear parent, ages past the capriciousness of youth, and falls in love. Limón has often been a poet who wears her heart on her sleeve, but in these extraordinary poems that heart becomes a “huge beating genius machine” striving to embrace and understand the fullness of the present moment. “I am beautiful. I am full of love. I am dying,” the poet writes. Building on the legacies of forebears such as Frank O’Hara, Sharon Olds, and Mark Doty, Limón’s work is consistently generous and accessible—though every observed moment feels complexly thought, felt, and lived.

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## Bright Dead Things: Poems By Ada Limón Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

Review

**Long list selection for the National Book Award for poetry**  
**Best Poetry Book of 2015: *New York Times* and *Buzzfeed***

### Praise for *Bright Dead Things*

"Effortlessly lyrical."—*New York Times*

"These poems are, as my students might say, hella intimate. They are meticulously honed and gorgeously crafted. They marry the lyric poem's interior emotional intensity with its exterior mode of social conveyance and aesthetic beauty. . . . The best compliment one can give a book of poems is that the book loves the reader. *Bright Dead Things* doesn't just love poetry; it loves the reader. My hunch is, Reader, you'll love it too."—*The Huffington Post*

"*Bright Dead Things*, the fourth book of poems by Ada Limón, breeds a particular mixture of wildness. The mixture is by turns melodious and tight. Limón's poems are like fires: charring the page, but leaving a smoke that remains past the close of the book."—*The Millions*

"Limón's work is destined to find a place with readers on the strength of her voice alone. Her intensity here is paradoxically set against the often slow burn of life in Kentucky, and the results will please readers."—*Flavorwire*

"Poet and Critic Stephen Burt says, 'Prose sense is to poetry as tonality is to music.' And I see that sense of prose cushioned in each poem included in this leguminous compilation. The works wear complexity on their sleeves with reassuring accessibility on their faces; to say it more succinctly, there's a tough grilling of the soul and champagnes served to the measure of each one's taste."—*The Rumpus*

"In Ada Limon's *Bright Dead Things*, there's a fierce jazz and sass ("this life is a fist / of fast wishes caught by nothing, / but the fishhook of tomorrow's tug.") and there's sadness—a grappling with death and loss that forces the imagination to a deep response. The radio in her new, rural home warns "stay safe and seek shelter" and yet the heart seeks love, risk, and strangeness—and finds it everywhere."—**Gregory Orr**

"Ada Limón doesn't write as if she needs us. She writes as if she wants us. Her words reveal, coax, pull, see us. In *Bright Dead Things* we read desire, ache, what human beings rarely have the heart or audacity to speak of alone—without the help of a poet with the most generous of eyes."—**Nikky Finney**

"Limón does far more than merely reflect the world: she continually transforms it, thereby revealing herself as an everyday symbolist and high level duende enabler. At the end of one poem she writes, "What the heart wants? The heart wants/ her horses back," and suddenly even this most urban reader feels wild and free."—**Matthew Zapruder**

"Both soft and tender, enormous and resounding, her poetic gestures entrance and transfix."—**Richard Blanco**

**Starred Review** "In her newest volume of poems, Limón (*Sharks in the Rivers*) delves into the divided self—self separated by geography, by loss, by change, by circumstance. VERDICT Generous of heart, intricate and accessible, the poems in this book are wondrous and deeply moving."—*Library Journal*

"A poet whose verse exudes warmth and compassion, Limón is at the height of her creative powers, and *Bright Dead Things* is her most gorgeous book of poems."—*Los Angeles Review of Books*

"Richly written and felt."—*Publishers Weekly*

About the Author

**Ada Limón** is the author of four poetry collections. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *American Poetry Review*, *Oxford American*, and *Guernica*. She lives in Kentucky and California.

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Melanie Roberts:**

Often the book *Bright Dead Things: Poems* will bring you to the new experience of reading any book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to read, this book very suited to you. The book *Bright Dead Things: Poems* is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

**Brandi Huff:**

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book *Bright Dead Things: Poems* it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book features high quality.

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**Donald Labelle:**

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