

Visiting Frost

VISITING Frost

Poems Inspired
by the Life and
Work of Robert
Frost



edited by

SHEILA COGHILL & THOM TAMMARO

foreword by jay parini

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著者:Coghill, Sheila (EDT)/ Tammara, Thom (EDT)/ Parini, Jay (FRW)

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Like Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman, Robert Frost looms large in the American

literary landscape, straddling the 19th and 20th centuries like a poetic colossus: whosoever desires passage must, at some point, contend with the monolithic presence of Robert Frost. As they did in *Visiting Emily* and *Visiting Walt*, in *Visiting Frost*, Sheila Coghill and Thom Tammaro once again capture the conversations between contemporary poets and a legend whose voice endures. In his introduction to the collection, Frost biographer Jay Parini likens the poet to a "great power station, one who stands off by himself in the big woods, continuously generating electricity that future poets can tap into for the price of a volume of his poems." A four-time Pulitzer Prize winner whose work is principally associated with the landscape and life in New England, Frost (1874-1963) was a traditional, psychologically complex, often dark and intense poet. In *Visiting Frost*, one hundred homage-paying poets--some who knew Frost, most only acquainted through his work--celebrate and reflect that intensity, in effect tapping into his electrical current. By reacting to specific Frost poems, by reinventing others, and by remembering aspects of Frost or by quarreling with him, the contributors speak on behalf of us whose lives have been brightened by the memorization and recitation of such poems as "The Road Not Taken" or "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." As the poets pay tribute to Frost's place in American poetry and history, they suggest--more than forty years after his death--just how alive and vital he remains in our collective memory.

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