

## Letters Of Ted Hughes

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[Owning the Facts of His Life](#) Faber & Faber

At the outset of his career Ted Hughes described letter writing as 'excellent training for conversation with the world', and he was to become a prolific master of this art. This selection begins when Hughes was seventeen, and documents the course of a life at once resolutely private but intensely attuned to others. It is a fascinatingly detailed picture of a mind of genius as it evolved through an incomparably eventful life and career.

[The 100 Best Nonfiction Books of All Time](#) Faber & Faber

Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate, was one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. He was one of Britain's most important poets. With an equal gift for poetry and prose, he was also a prolific children's writer and has been hailed as the greatest English letterwriter since John Keats. His magnetic personality and insatiable appetite for friendship, love, and life also attracted more scandal than any poet since Lord Byron. His lifelong quest to come to terms with the suicide of his first wife, Sylvia Plath, is the saddest and most infamous moment in the public history of modern poetry. Hughes left behind a more complete archive of notes and journals than any other major poet, including thousands of pages of drafts, unpublished poems, and memorandum books that make up an almost complete record of Hughes's inner life, which he preserved for posterity. Renowned scholar Jonathan Bate has spent five years in the Hughes archives, unearthing a wealth of new material. His book offers, for the first time, the full story of Hughes's life as it was lived, remembered, and reshaped in his art.

[Letters of Sylvia Plath Volume II](#) Macmillan

Although Ted Hughes ended his days as England's beloved poet laureate, his life was dogged by tragedy and controversy. In this insightful biography, Feinstein explores an altogether more complex situation, throwing new light on his relationship with his lover Assia Wevill, who later killed herself along with their young daughter. 12 photos.

[Poet and Critic](#) Knopf Books for Young Readers

A major literary event: the first volume in the definitive, complete collection of the letters of Sylvia Plath—most never before seen. One of the most beloved poets of the modern age, Sylvia Plath continues to inspire and fascinate the literary world. While her renown as one of the twentieth century's most influential poets is beyond dispute, Plath was also one of its most captivating correspondents. The Letters of Sylvia Plath is the breathtaking compendium of this prolific writer's correspondence with more than 120 people, including family, friends, contemporaries, and colleagues. The Letters of Sylvia Plath includes her correspondence from her years at Smith, her summer editorial internship in New York City, her time at Cambridge, her experiences touring Europe, and the early days of her marriage to Ted Hughes in 1956. Most of the letters are previously unseen, including sixteen letters written by Plath to Hughes when they were apart after their honeymoon. This magnificent compendium also includes twenty-seven of Plath's own elegant line drawings taken from the letters she sent to her friends and family, as well as twenty-two previously unpublished photographs. This remarkable, collected edition of Plath's letters is a work of immense scholarship and care, presenting a comprehensive and historically accurate text of the known and extant letters that she wrote. Intimate and revealing, this masterful compilation offers fans and scholars generous and unprecedented insight into the life of one of our most significant poets.

[Poems of Mourning](#) HarperCollins

Beginning in 1611 with the King James Bible and ending in 2014 with Elizabeth Kolbert's 'The Sixth Extinction', this extraordinary voyage through the written treasures of our culture examines universally-acclaimed classics such as Pepys' 'Diaries', Charles Darwin's 'The Origin of Species', Stephen Hawking's 'A Brief History of Time' and a whole host of additional works --

[New Selected Poems](#) Faber & Faber

Spanning a period of thirty years, a wide-ranging collection of writing about poetry and literature by the Poet Laureate of England includes reflections on the creative process and such figures as Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, and Sylvia Plath.

[Ariel's Gift](#). Faber & Faber Non Fiction

Poems over the ages lamenting the dead. In *Elegy for Himself*, written in the London Tower before his execution, Chidiock Tichborne wrote: "My tale was heard, and yet it was not told; / My fruit is fall'n, and yet my leaves are green; / My youth is spent, and yet I am not old; / I saw the world and yet I was not seen."

[The Journals of Sylvia Plath](#) Faber & Faber

Overview: Ted Hughes described letter-writing as "excellent training for conversation with the world." These nearly 300 letters—selected from several thousand—show him in all his aspects: poet, husband and father, lover of the natural world, proud Englishman, and a man for whom literature was a way of being fully alive to experience. There are letters dealing with Hughes's work on classic books, from the early breakthrough *Lupercal* to the late, revelatory *Birthday Letters*. There are letters discussing, with notable frankness, his marriages to Sylvia Plath and then to Assia Wevill. After marrying Carol Orchard, in 1970, Hughes ran a farm in Dorset for several years, and there are letters touching on his interest in astrology, his strong and original views of Shakespeare, and his passion for farming, fishing, and the environment in general. Letters to Seamus Heaney and Philip Larkin situate Hughes among his peers as never before. Letters of Ted Hughes reveals the author as a prose writer of great vigor and subtlety. It deepens our understanding of—and our admiration for—this great twentieth-century poet.

[Letters Home](#) Anchor

Explores various themes such as 'Capturing Animals', 'Wind and Weather' and 'Writing about People'. This book encourages children to think and write for themselves via a discussion of the poems.

[Ted Hughes, Sylvia Plath, and Writing Between Them](#) HarperCollins Publishers

*Ariel* (1965) contains many of Sylvia Plath's best-known poems written in an extraordinary burst of creativity just before her death in 1963, including 'Lady Lazarus', 'Edge', 'Daddy' and 'Paralytic'. The first of four collections to be published by Faber & Faber, *Ariel* is the volume on which Sylvia Plath's reputation as one of the most original, daring and gifted poets of the twentieth century rests. This beautiful hardback reproduces the classic design of the first edition of a volume now recognised to be one of the most shocking and iconic collections of poetry of the twentieth century. 'If the poems are despairing, vengeful and destructive, they are at the same time tender, open to things, and also unusually clever, sardonic, hardminded . . . They are works of great artistic purity and, despite all the nihilism, great generosity . . . the book is a major literary event.' A. Alvarez in the *Observer*

[Collected Poems](#) New York ; Cambridge [Cambridgeshire] : Harper & Row

Forms a kind of autobiography of at least one aspect of Sylvia Plath's very complex life; it also documents the flowering of a bright young woman with promising talents into a full-blown genius, one of the greatest writers of this century.

[The Letters of Sylvia Plath Volume 1](#) Cambridge University Press

First published in 1983, *River* celebrates fluvial landscapes, their creatures and their regenerative powers. Inspired by Hughes's love of fishing and by his environmental activism, the poems are a deftly and passionately attentive chronicle of change over the course of the seasons. West Country rivers predominate ('The West Dart' and 'Torrige'), but other poems imagine or recall Japanese rivers or Celtic rivers, and 'The Gulkana' explores an ancient Alaskan watercourse. At its core the sequence rehearses, in various settings, from winter to winter, the life-cycle of the salmon. All this, too, is stitched into the torn richness, The epic poise That holds him so steady in his wounds, so loyal to his doom, so patient In the machinery of heaven. from 'October Salmon'

[Shakespeare and the Goddess of Complete Being](#) Faber & Faber

This anniversary edition with a new foreword by Marina Warner celebrates fifty years since original publication of *Crow* (1970), which marked a pivotal moment in Ted Hughes's writing career. Growing out of an invitation by Leonard Baskin to make a book with him about crows, Hughes found both a structure and a persona that gave his vision a new power and coherence. A deep engagement with history, mythology and the natural world combine to forge a work of impressive and unsettling force.

[What a Hazard a Letter Is](#) Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Ted Hughes described letter-writing as "excellent training for conversation with the world." These nearly 300 letters—selected from several thousand—show him in all his aspects: poet, husband and father, lover of the natural world, proud Englishman, and a man for whom literature was a way of being fully alive to experience. There are letters dealing with Hughes's work on classic books, from the early breakthrough *Lupercal* to the late, revelatory *Birthday Letters*. There are letters discussing, with notable frankness, his marriages to Sylvia Plath and then to Assia Wevill. After marrying Carol Orchard, in 1970, Hughes ran a farm in Dorset for several years, and there are letters touching on his interest in astrology, his strong and original views of Shakespeare, and his passion for farming, fishing, and the environment in general. Letters to Seamus Heaney and Philip Larkin situate Hughes among his peers as never before. Letters of Ted Hughes reveals the author as a prose writer of great vigor and subtlety. It deepens our understanding of—and our admiration for—this great twentieth-century poet.

[Letters of Ted Hughes](#) Macmillan

In this series, a contemporary poet selects and introduces a poet of the past. By their choice of poems and by the personal and critical reactions they express in their prefaces, the editors offer insights into their own work as well as providing an accessible and passionate introduction to some of the greatest poets in our literature. Ted Hughes (1930-98) was born in Yorkshire. His first book, *The Hawk in the Rain*, was published in 1957. His last collection, *Birthday Letters*, was published in 1998 and won the Whitbread Book of the Year, the Forward Prize and the T. S. Eliot Prize. He was appointed Poet Laureate in 1984 and appointed to the Order of Merit in 1998.

[Ariel](#) Rowman & Littlefield

The electrifying diaries that are essential reading for anyone moved and fascinated by the life and work of one of America's most acclaimed poets. Sylvia Plath began keeping a diary as a young child. By the time she was at Smith College, when this book begins, she had settled into a nearly daily routine with her journal, which was also a sourcebook for her writing. Plath once called her journal her "Sargasso," her repository of imagination, "a litany of dreams, directives, and imperatives," and in fact these pages contain the germs of most of her work. Plath's ambitions as a writer were urgent and ultimately all-consuming, requiring of her a heat, a fantastic chaos, even a violence that burned straight through her. The intensity of this struggle is rendered in her journal with an unsparing clarity, revealing both the frequent desperation of her situation and the bravery with which she faced down her demons.

[Your Own](#), Sylvia Farrar Straus Giroux

The debut novel from the New York Times – bestselling author of *The Interestings* and *The Female Persuasion*, a story of three college students' shared fascination with poetry and death, and how one of them must face difficult truths in order to leave her obsession behind. Published when she was only twenty-three and written while she was a student at Brown, *Sleepwalking* marks the beginning of Meg Wolitzer's acclaimed career. Filled with her usual wisdom, compassion and insight, *Sleepwalking* tells the story of the three notorious "death girls," so called on the Swarthmore campus because they dress in black and are each absorbed in the work and suicide of a different poet: Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, and Wolitzer's creation Lucy Asher, a gifted writer who drowned herself at twenty-four. At night the death girls gather in a candlelit room to read their heroines' work aloud. But an affair with Julian, an upperclassman, pushes sensitive, struggling Claire Danziger—she of the Lucy Asher obsession— to consider to what degree her "death girl" identity is really who she is. As she grapples with her feelings for Julian, her own understanding of herself and her past begins to shift uncomfortably and even disturbingly. Finally, Claire takes drastic measures to confront the facts about herself that she has been avoiding for years.

[Moortown Diary](#) HarperCollins

*Turning the Table* offers a new resource to Hughes and Plath scholars studying the poets' archival materials and compositional processes. The book traces the theory of the *ars poetica* that each poet advanced while exploring the dialogues that emerged between Plath's *Ariel* and Hughes's *Crow* and *Birthday Letters* collections.

[River](#) Penguin

Originally published in 1979, *Moortown Diary* is the updated version of Ted Hughes's acclaimed Devon farming sequence, written over a period of several years during which he was spending almost every day outside, either gardening or farming. The introduction and

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notes (added in 1989) sketch in the background from which these remarkable poems emerged as an improvised verse journal, sparsely edited, coalescing spontaneously on the page. ' Moortown Diary keeps its eye firmly on the creatures behind the language. It's written in the style of Hughes's play translations: very swift and bright and urgent and speakable...Hughes strips away the protective layers - the soundproofed ears, the double-glazed eyes - that prevent us making contact with anything outside ourselves. Right now, I can't think of anything more important than that kind of poem. Because we're not just here to think about literature. We're here to try to wake up.' Alice Oswald, *The Guardian* 'It grips your heart, and your intestines, like a vice from the first page. He makes language as physical as a bruise, and in these poems beauty and tenderness blend with violence.' John Carey, *Sunday Times* 'The Moortown sequence includes some of Hughes's finest poems...They are like no other poems I have read, with a degree of intensity, sanity and grace that he has never equalled.' Anthony Thwaite, *Times Literary Supplement*  
Poetry in the Making Faber & Faber  
A collection of works by a contemporary English poet selected from twelve books of poetry written over a 25-year period.