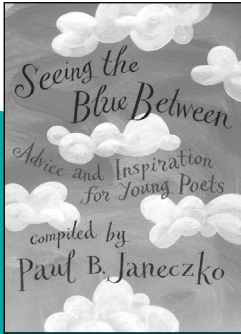


# How Do You Write Poetry?

## Thirty-two Top Poets Give Advice



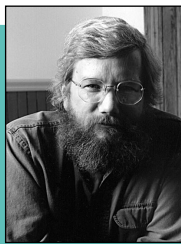
**Seeing the Blue Between:**  
Advice and Inspiration  
for Young Poets  
compiled by Paul B. Janeczko  
(Grades 4-8)  
HC: 0-7636-0881-5

April may be National Poetry Month, but writing poetry can be a challenge any month of the year! To the rescue comes *Seeing the Blue Between: Advice and Inspiration for Young Poets*, an unprecedented volume combining poems with letters of advice from poets, compiled by poetry anthologist extraordinaire Paul B. Janeczko (who was also the force behind the award-winning *A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems*).

“Young people who read my

books often write to me with the question, ‘How can I become a better writer?’,” Paul says. “I usually tell them to do two things: write a lot of poetry and read a lot of poetry. The letters and poems I’ve assembled in *Seeing the Blue Between* should add one more thing to every young writer’s ‘to do’ list: listen to the advice of poets who have spent years practicing their craft.”

Here is a sneak preview of the expert advice to be found in *Seeing the Blue Between*, for the benefit of new poets everywhere:



Paul B. Janeczko

*Do you want to write a poem?*

*Forget it . . . until you have rewritten it.*

—Lee Bennett Hopkins

*Nothing succeeds like failure. Revel in it. You may take a measure of pride if you can say, “I failed three times today, and that was before lunch.”*

—J. Patrick Lewis

*Most of all, I want a poem to say what I really felt or saw or heard—that is, to be true.*

—Lilian Moore

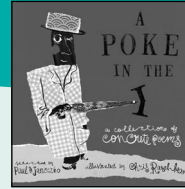
*Your ideas are more important than trying to make a perfect rhyming poem. Your poem should have a sense of rhythm—it should sound like a song and have a repeating beat like a soft drum tap. BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE THE LINES RHYME!!!*

—Jack Prelutsky

*I love to write poems because I am lazy. A poem is short. I can write a first draft in five minutes and go eat a bag of potato chips.*

—Janet S. Wong

Don't miss these other outstanding poetry selections from Candlewick!



**A Poke in the I:**  
A Collection of  
Concrete Poems  
compiled by Paul B. Janeczko  
illustrated by Chris Raschka  
(Grades 1-5)  
HC: 0-7636-0661-8

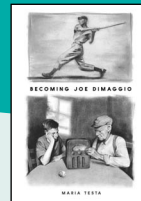
A *New York Times Book Review* 10 Best Illustrated Children's Books selection

A *Publishers Weekly* Best Children's Book of the Year

An American Library Association Notable Children's Book

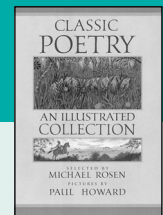
A *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* Blue Ribbon winner

Look for downloadable activities related to *A Poke in the I* and concrete poetry on our website at [www.candlewick.com](http://www.candlewick.com). Just click on “Activities” on the top menu bar and then choose “Discover the Potential for Poetry.”



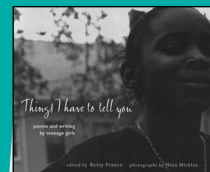
**Becoming Joe DiMaggio**  
A short novel in blank verse  
by Maria Testa  
illustrated by Scott Hunt  
(Grades 5-9)  
HC: 0-7636-1537-4

“Powerfully moving as it braids together baseball, family, and the Italian-American experience.”  
—*Booklist* (starred review)



**Classic Poetry:**  
An Illustrated Collection  
selected by Michael Rosen  
illustrated by Paul Howard  
(Grade 4 and up)  
HC: 1-5640-2890-9

An International Reading Association Teacher's Choice Award winner



**Things I Have to Tell You:**  
Poems and Writing by  
Teenage Girls  
compiled by Betsy Franco  
photographs by Nina Nickles  
(Grade 7 and up)  
HC: 0-7636-0905-6  
PB: 0-7636-1035-6



**You Hear Me?**  
Poems and Writing  
by Teenage Boys  
compiled by Betsy Franco  
photographs by Nina Nickles  
(Grade 7 and up)  
HC: 0-7636-1158-1  
PB: 0-7636-1159-X

American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults

American Library Association Recommended Books for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, Quick Pick

A sample spread from *Seeing the Blue Between* and a biography of Paul B. Janeczko may be found on our website at [www.candlewick.com](http://www.candlewick.com).