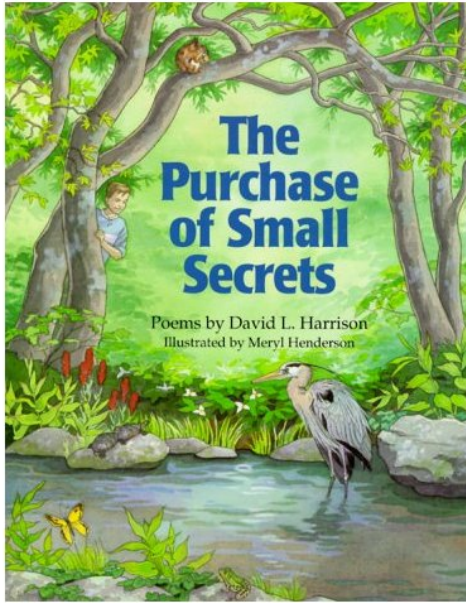


The Purchase of Small Secrets



- **Hardcover:** 48 pages
- **Publisher:** Boyds Mills Press
- **September 1998**
- **Reading level:** Ages 9-12
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1563970546

THE PURCHASE OF SMALL SECRETS

Children's Literature

This collection of poems is aimed at all who enjoy life in the country. Over 30 poems are included in this volume, addressing such topics as spring, footprints, people, and nature. Each poem is illustrated with pencil drawings that are quite realistic. The poems in the collection would do well as part of a science or language arts curriculum or for reading aloud. Children who are fans of poetry and who also like wildlife, the outdoors, and nature should enjoy the scope of this volume. Teachers, parents and librarians will find numerous uses for this book.

School Library Journal

Gr 3-5-Thirty-eight free-verse pastorals celebrating boyhood. The poems evoke images of small-town life-baseball, creek beds, fistfights, flirting, eating garden tomatoes, trees, snakes, horses, and shooting a gun. The overall tone is informal and playful yet thoughtful and readers will sense this child's sincerity when he expresses his connection to nature. The impact of several of the selections will linger after the book has been put away. The collection includes several poems for two voices that could be used in classrooms successfully. Black-and-white pencil drawings decorate the book, and while adding little to the poetry, give a nice touch to the work as a whole. An introspective collection that may appeal to poetry-reluctant children.-Angela J. Reynolds, West Slope Community Library, Portland, OR