



The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1)

Michelle Heidenrich Barnes

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Today's Little Ditty is more than a children's poetry blog, it's a poetry playground. Each month, a vibrant community of writers, teachers, librarians, and poetry-appreciators gathers to take part in the Ditty of the Month Club (DMC). Writing to prompts by successful authors and editors, they participate for the camaraderie, and for the joy and craft of writing poetry.

In *The Best of Today's Little Ditty, 2014-2015*, thirteen "ditty" challenges by contemporary children's authors, including Nikki Grimes, Lee Bennett Hopkins, J. Patrick Lewis, Joyce Sidman, Margarita Engle, Kwame Alexander, and others, have inspired these 75 poems, deemed "best" by their peers. They range from lighthearted to thought-provoking and appeal to a wide audience, from children to adults. Join the fun at michellehbarnes.blogspot.com.

What people are saying about *Today's Little Ditty* and the Ditty of the Month Club:

“Poetry is prose, bent out of shape,” I like to say, and for proof, you need only connect with Michelle Heidenrich Barnes's Ditty of the Month Club, where children's poets are busy flexing their poetic muscles through the use of various verse forms. They are not showing off; they're practicing. And they invite you to do the same.”

— *J. Patrick Lewis*, former U.S. Children's Poet Laureate (2011-2013) and recipient of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children

“The Ditty of the Month Club . . . gives my students a way to participate and be celebrated as practicing poets.”

— *Margaret G. Simon*, teacher of gifted studies and recipient of the 2014 NCTE Donald H. Graves Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Writing

“*Today's Little Ditty* is an amazing resource in the blogging community of poetry for young people with more than 500 posts that invite us to learn, try, pause, write, celebrate, read, think, and revel in poetry and all it has to offer us in our uber-busy lives.”

— *Dr. Sylvia Vardell*, professor of children's literature at Texas Woman's University and recipient of the 2014 Scholastic Library Publishing Award for her work in the field

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From reader reviews:

Donald Lester:

In this 21st century, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive right now, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a book your ability to survive enhance then having chance to stay than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this specific The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) book as nice and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Brian Rankins:

This The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) are reliable for you who want to become a successful person, why. The explanation of this The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) can be one of several great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed an individual with information that might be will shock your earlier knowledge. This book will be handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed versions. Beside that this The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1) forcing you to have an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

Megan Kelly:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition details. Even you love The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1), it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout people. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Andre Barrett:

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got college students? We believe that that concern was given by teacher for their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. And also you know that little person just like reading or as reading through become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important along with book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your personal teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update in relation to something by book. Different categories of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is actually The Best of Today's Little Ditty: 2014-2015 (Volume 1).

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