



## This Day: Collected & New Sabbath Poems

*By Wendell Berry*

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### **This Day: Collected & New Sabbath Poems** By Wendell Berry

For nearly thirty-five years, Wendell Berry has been at work on a series of poems occasioned by his solitary Sunday walks around his farm in Kentucky. From riverfront and meadows, to grass fields and woodlots, every inch of this hillside farm lives in these poems, as do the poet's constant companions of memory and occasion, family and animals, who have with Berry created his Home Place with love and gratitude.

These are poems of spiritual longing and political extremity, memorials and celebrations, elegies and lyrics, alongside the occasional rants of the Mad Farmer, pushed to the edge yet again by his compatriots and elected officials.

With the publication of this new complete edition, it has become increasingly clear that The Sabbath Poems have become the very heart of Berry's entire work. And these magnificent poems, taken as a whole, have become one of the greatest contributions ever made to American poetry.

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## Editorial Review

### Review

"Overwhelmingly, though, the poems in *This Day* reveal the life of a person who cares about his relationship to the earth and the human community...His poems, whether they soothe or jolt, inspire or move to responsible action, aim at keeping "kindness" and "kinship" alive in the world. That alone makes *This Day* a book well worth reading, on a Sabbath or any other day of the week."...Marginalia Review of *Books*

### About the Author

**Wendell Berry** is the author of more than fifty books of poetry, fiction, and essays. He was recently awarded the National Humanities Medal, the Cleanth Brooks Medal for Lifetime Achievement by the Fellowship of Southern Writers, and the Louis Bromfield Society Award. For more than forty years he has lived and farmed with his wife, Tanya, in Kentucky.

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Excerpt from *This Day*

After the long weeks  
when the heat curled the leaves  
and the air thirsted, comes  
a morning after rain, cool  
and bright. The leaves uncurl,  
the pastures begin again  
to grow, the animals and the birds  
rejoice. If tonight the world  
ends, we'll have had this day.

## Users Review

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#### Ann Edwards:

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