American Poetry to 1900
created by David J. Peterson

All selections from:

Johnson, Edward (1598-1672)
   New England’s Annoyances

Bradstreet, Anne (1612-1672).
   The Prologue  * A Dialogue between Old England and New  * The Author to her Book

Wigginsworth, Michael (1631-1705)
   from The Day of Doom

Alsop, George (1636-1673)
   The Author to His Book

Taylor, Edward (1642-1729)
   Selections from Preparatory Meditations (first series)
      1, 2, 9, 23, 32, 39, 46
   from Preparatory Meditations (second series)
      18, 34, 150

Wright, Susanna (1697-1784)
   Anna Boylens Letter to King Henry the 8th  * On the Death of a little Girl
   My own Birth Day  * To Eliza Norris—at Fairhill

Hammon, Jupiter (1711-1806)
   An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatley, Ethiopian Poetess...

Freneau, Philip (1752-1832)
   Libera nos, Domine...  * The Indian Student, or Force of Nature
   Lines occasioned by a Visit to an old Indian Burying Ground
   To Sir Toby...  * The Republican Genius of Europe
   On a Honey Bee, Drinking from a Glass of Wine...

Wheatley, Phillis (c1753-1784)
   To Maecenas  * To the University of Cambridge, in New-England
   On being brought from Africa to America
   To S.M., a young African Painter...  * A Farewel to America
   To His Excellency General Washington  * Liberty and Peace
Bryant, William Cullen (1794-1878)
   Thanatopsis • To a Waterfowl • A Winter Piece • An Indian at the Burying-Place of His Fathers • The Prairies • The Painted Cup

Emerson, Ralph Waldo (1803-1882)
   Each and All • The Problem • To Rhea • The World-Soul
   Hamatreya • The Rhodora • The Humble-Bee
   Ode, Inscribed to W.H. Channing • Merlin I & II • Muskitquid
   Threnody • Brahma

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth (1807-1882)
   A Psalm of Life • The Wreck of the Hesperus • The Village Blacksmith
   The Warning • Seaweed • The Bridge
   The Jewish Cemetery at Newport • The Children’s Hour

Whittier, John Greenleaf (1807-1892)
   The Haschich • Maud Muller • Barbara Frietchie • What the Birds Said
   Burning Drift-Wood

Poe, Edgar Allan (1809-1849)
   “Stanzas” • To Science Fairy-Land • “Alone” • To Helen
   The Conqueror Worm • Lenore • The Raven • The Bells • Annabel Lee

Whitman, Walt (1819-1892)
   From Pent-Up Aching Rivers • In Paths Untrodden
   Scented Herbage of My Breast • Of the Terrible Doubt of Appearances
   When I Heard at the Close of Day
   We Two Boys Together Clinging • Crossing Brooklyn Ferry

Melville, Herman (1819-1891)
   “The ribs and terrors in the whale,” • The Portent • Misgivings
   The Conflict of Convictions • A Utilitarian View of the Monitor’s Fight
   Shiloh: A Requiem • The House-top: A Night Piece • “Formerly a Slave”

Cary, Alice (1820-1871)
   The Sea-Side Cave • To Solitude • Katrina on the Porch
   The West Country

Dickinson, Emily (1830-1886)
   “The bee is not afraid of me.” • “Bring me the sunset in a cup,”
   “These are the days when Birds come back—”
   “Safe in their Alabaster Chambers” • “I like the look of Agony,”
   “I can wade Grief—” • “Hope’ is the thing with feathers”
   “I felt a funeral, in my Brain,” • “I’m Nobody! Who are you?”
“I should have been too glad, I see—” * “I cannot dance upon my Toes—“
“Of Course—I prayed—“ * “There’s been a Death, in the Opposite House,“
“Twas like a Maelstrom, with a notch,“
“Much Madness is divinest Sense—“ * “I died for Beauty—but was scarce“
“I’m ceded—I’ve stopped being Theirs—“
“Mine—by the Right of the White Election!“
“They shut me up in Prose—“ * “I dwell in Possibility—“
“One need not be a Chamber—to be Haunted—“
“A Pit—but Heaven over it—“

Robinson, E. A. (1869-1935)
   Aaron Stark * Walt Whitman * John Evereldown * Luke Havergal
   Reuben Bright * Cliff Klingenhagen

Dunbar, Paul Laurence (1872-1906)
   Accountability * Compensation * The Colored Soldiers

Crane, Stephen (1871-1900)
   selections from The Black Riders and Other Lines
   selections from War is Kind
   “A man adrift on a slim spar” * “A naked woman and a dead dwarf“