

**The Anthem Anthology of Victorian Sonnets**  
*Edited by Michael J. Allen*

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**Rights Held:** World

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**Description**

**A comprehensive collection consisting of over three thousand Victorian sonnets written by Victorian poets between 1836 and the early years of twentieth century.**

'This formidable undertaking of anthologizing Victorian sonnets in five volumes, thoughtfully indexed, is chiefly valuable for its inclusion of so many little known or unknown writers of the genre. Those who thought they knew Victorian literature will have to think again.' —*Archie Burnett, Professor of English and Co-director, Editorial Institute, Boston University, USA*

'This magnificent anthology is a resounding vindication of the Victorian sonneteers. It at last allows scholars to study and readers to enjoy the full range of sonnets by famous and forgotten poets, including sonnet sequences as subtle and comprehensive as any Victorian novels.' —*John Holmes, Senior Lecturer in English, University of Reading, UK*

This publication provides - for the first time since the late 1800s - a comprehensive anthology of sonnets written by Victorian poets. Covering both canonical and largely forgotten poets, the coverage ranges from single sonnets to complete sonnet sequences. Rather than restricting itself to a small number of sonnets from a limited list of poets, as in general Victorian poetry anthologies, this five-volume set includes a representative selection of sonnets for each individual poet in order to display the diversity and innovation brought to the sonnet form by Victorian poets. More than one hundred poets and over three thousand sonnets are included.

The anthology fills an important gap in the field of Victorian anthologies by making available a large number of examples of a poetic form that was one of the most important in nineteenth-century poetry. The sonnets are ordered chronologically by date of publication. This enables the reader to trace developments over a period of seventy years, during which a fundamental re-appraisal of the sonnet, in both structural and thematic forms, occurred.

**Readership:** Institutes and specialists who teach and undertake research in Victorian poetry, history and culture; undergraduate and postgraduate students of the literature of the Victorian period; poetry lovers with an interest in sonnets.

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VOLUME I - List of Poets, Volumes 1-5; Preface; Acknowledgements; Introduction; Suggested Further Reading; Changing Times; Textual Notes 1836-1850; Sonnets 1836-1850; Sources and Indexes; VOLUME II - List of Poets, Volumes 1-5; Textual Notes 1851-1869; Sonnets 1851-1869; Sources and Indexes; VOLUME III - List of Poets, Volumes 1-5; Textual Notes 1870-1876; Sonnets 1870-1876; Sources and Indexes; VOLUME IV - List of Poets, Volumes 1-5; Textual Notes 1877-1888; Sonnets 1877-1888; Sources and Indexes; VOLUME V - List of Poets, Volumes 1-5; Textual Notes 1889 and Beyond; Sonnets 1889-1923; Sources and Indexes

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**About the Editor**

Michael J. Allen was awarded a PhD for his study on 'The Victorian Sonnet: Antecedents, Form and Function', from Anglia Ruskin University in 2006.

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