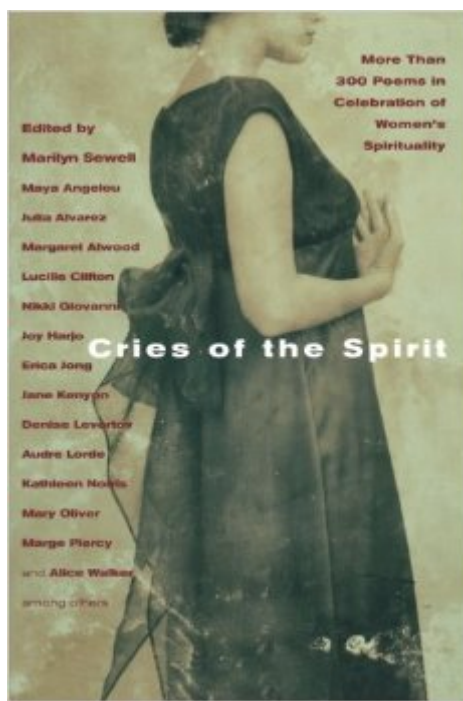


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# Cries Of The Spirit



## Synopsis

Brimming over with the inspirational words and thoughts of some of our finest writers, *Cries of the Spirit* is a beautiful sourcebook of poetry and prose in praise of life and all that it entails. Here women's voices fill the age-old silence about matters central to their experience—from menstruation, sexual intimacy, and childbirth to caretaking, household rituals, and death. These writings represent a healing vision of the sacred that emerges from the particular consciousness of women—a vision that partakes of the world of earth and flesh. With contributions by Maya Angelou, Julia Alvarez, Margaret Atwood, Hildegard of Bingen, Lucille Clifton, Annie Dillard, Joy Harjo, Erica Jong, Denise Levertov, Audre Lorde, Kathleen Norris, Marge Piercy, Starhawk, Eudora Welty, Alice Walker, and others.

## Book Information

Paperback: 334 pages

Publisher: Beacon Press (April 7, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807068497

ISBN-13: 978-0807068496

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #699,788 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #231 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#) #386 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Women Authors](#) #492 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Women Writers](#)

## Customer Reviews

Marilyn Sewell's work on "Cries of the Spirit" was more than worth the price and I have wanted to thank her over and over. A death in the family and I grab her book to find the right words, a marriage and there she is again, providing a woman's point of view from a variety of woman that I have found extremely useful. No matter the occasion, a new baby in the family for instance, and flip of the pages and Marilyn found one more woman who said what I want to say beautifully. Not to mention the times I sit alone, staring at the bay and use the poetry for inspiration for myself. "Cries of the Spirit" (and laughter I might add) is a worth while find!

I've had this book for about three years, and given it as a gift numerous times to my women friends, because it's the perfect companion in any mood and for any occasion. Marilyn Sewell has collected a broad spectrum of poetry from women, both famous poets and not-so-famous, and collected the entries into categories that make it simple to find a reading for just about any occasion or ceremony. There are wise words here, beautifully presented. Bring this book back into print! Buy it! Have it on hand as an instant resource, along with the collections by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon ("Earth Prayers," "Life Prayers," "Prayers for a Thousand Years") for all those occasions when you need the exact right perfect reading for an important moment.

This volume is shaped around intuitive explorations of women's spiritual journey: "Owning Self," "The Imperative of Intimacy," "Mothering," "Generations," "Sacredness in the Ordinary," "Images of the Divine." Though my 18-year-old daughter and I have come to perceive ourselves as women very differently, this is a volume we both have come to love. I wouldn't think of sending her off to college without her own copy!

Almost every page of this collection is an immediate, here-and-now blessing, affirming the special qualities, intuitions and essences that are being a woman. I pick it up again and again for laughter, comfort, wisdom, fellowship and pure enjoyment. Some authors are old friends; meeting new poets was wonderful. It is a terrific introduction to literature and a great gift.

If you like poetry, if you are a woman or like women, if you are searching for or have found spirituality, you have encountered a book that feels like home to your soul. Cries of the Spirit is a book that touches on Feminine Spirituality in every way I could imagine possible. It felt like a big soft couch to my soul

A truly rich and diverse sourcebook of poetry and prose which defines women through our writings. The book is an anthology of more than 300 poems and several of prose pieces by such authors as: Annie Dillard, Denise Levertov, Maya Angelou, Alice Walker, Marge Piercy and earlier writers such as Hildegard von Bingen and Margaret Fuller. My favorite writings are from the hearts and minds of writers such as Joyce Carol Oates, "Growing Together," Margaret Atwood, "Five Poems For Grandmothers," Gwendolyn Brooks, "The Mother," and Annie Dillard "Holy the Firm". These writings offer visions of women from the ordinary to the eclectic. Marilyn Sewell, a Unitarian Universalist minister & doctoral candidate, offers an inciteful introduction to this book. I often dip into this book

when seeking just the right poem to review or to remind myself how diverse the women's writing movement is. I give this book a huge FIVE stars. And I hope others will be able to enjoy this book as much as I have. Was this helpful to you?

This is the only anthology of poetry that I have ever read cover to cover without putting it down. This book is comfort, a talk with your best girlfriends, encouragement, enlightenment and thought-provocation all between two covers. I would recommend it for any woman's private library and the libraries of her friends who love good words, moving images and beauty.

a carefully, prayerfully selected collection of poems of spirit, insight, and power. An inspiration and a great way to find new fine poets and authors

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