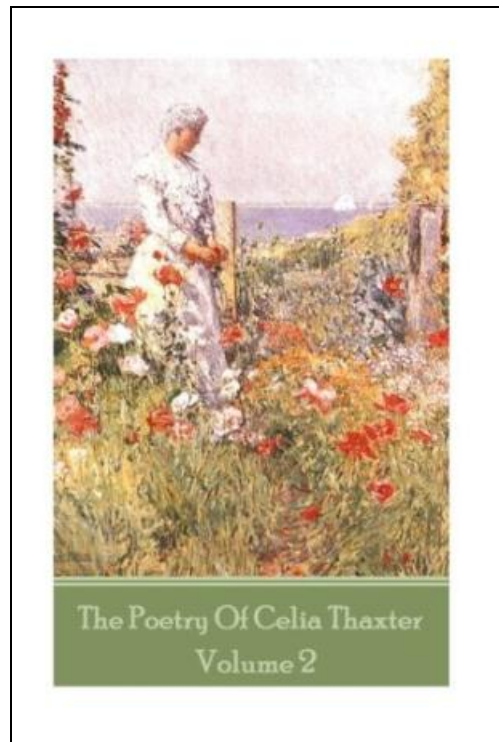


The Poetry of Celia Thaxter - Volume II



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Reviews

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(Dr. Kim Bergnaum)

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No binding. Condition: New. 134 pages. Celia Loughton Thaxter was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on June 29th, 1835 and spent her childhood years on the Isles of Shoals, initially on White Island, where her father, Thomas Loughton, was a lighthouse keeper, and then the wonderfully named Smuttynose and Appledore Islands. At sixteen, she married Levi Thaxter, her father's business partner, and moved to the mainland, residing first in Watertown, Massachusetts, at a property his father owned. In 1854, they moved to a house in Newburyport and later, in 1856, acquired their own home near the Charles River at Newtonville. Celia had two sons, one of whom was Roland, born August 28, 1858, and would become a prominent mycologist who would later teach at Harvard. Her first published poem was written during this time on the mainland. That poem, Land-Locked, was first published in the Atlantic Monthly in 1861 and earned her \$10. It was to be the beginning of a career that would make her one of America's most popular poets and short story writers. Her marriage with Levi was not perfect, tensions gradually increased. After 10 years she moved back to the islands and her beloved Appledore Island. The marriage was not over but the separations grew longer as Levi didn't share his wife's love of island life. Celia became the hostess of her father's hotel, the Appledore House, and many New England literary and artists stayed there; Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Henry David Thoreau, John Greenleaf Whittier, Sarah Orne Jewett, and the artists William Morris Hunt, Child Hassam, who painted several pictures of her and watercolorist Ellen Robbins, who painted the flowers in her garden. Celia was present at the time of the infamous murders on Smuttynose Island, about which she wrote the...



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