

# Open Shutters: A Poetic Masterpiece by Mary Jo Salter

## Delving into the Profound Depths of Mary Jo Salter's Open Shutters

In the tapestry of contemporary American poetry, Mary Jo Salter's "Open Shutters" stands as a vibrant and captivating masterpiece. With its exquisite imagery, profound themes, and exquisite craftsmanship, the collection invites readers on an introspective journey that explores the complexities of human experience.

## A Symphony of Sensory Experiences

"Open Shutters" is a veritable feast for the senses, transporting readers into a realm of vivid and evocative imagery. Salter's keen eye for detail paints rich landscapes that captivate the imagination. In her poem "The Long Trail," she vividly describes the "meadow's hum" and "chickory's blue tether," immersing us in the tranquility of the natural world.



### Open Shutters by Mary Jo Salter

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1530 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 98 pages

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Equally captivating is Salter's exploration of the human body and its sensory perceptions. In "Ultrasound," she captures the surreal experience of a medical examination, transforming it into a poetic exploration of both physical and emotional vulnerability. The poem's stark imagery and evocative language create an unforgettable and deeply resonant experience.

## **Exploring Universal Themes**

Beyond its sensory appeal, "Open Shutters" delves into universal themes that resonate with readers of all backgrounds. Salter confronts the complexities of love, loss, and memory with unflinching honesty and sensitivity. In her poem "Widow's Weeds," she explores the raw emotions of a woman grappling with the loss of her husband. The poem's lyrical language and poignant imagery convey the depth of her grief and the struggle to come to terms with the irrevocable.

Throughout the collection, Salter also grapples with the passage of time and the inevitable changes it brings. In "Muse," she reflects on the fading memories of youth and the bittersweet realization that beauty is ephemeral. Her poems capture the fleeting nature of our experiences and the bittersweet longing for what has been lost.

## **Exquisite Craftsmanship**

Salter's mastery of language and form is evident in each and every poem in "Open Shutters." Her precise diction and carefully chosen words create a symphony of sound that enhances the poem's emotional impact. In "The Bassinet," she deftly employs assonance and alliteration to convey the tenderness and wonder of a newborn baby.

Moreover, Salter's skillful use of rhythm and meter creates a sense of movement and flow that guides the reader through the poems. In "The Raft," she utilizes a lilting rhythm to evoke the gentle rocking of a boat on a tranquil lake, immersing readers in the poem's tranquil atmosphere.

## **A Legacy of Literary Excellence**

Mary Jo Salter is an acclaimed poet whose work has been celebrated by critics and readers alike. She has received numerous awards for her poetry, including the Pushcart Prize and the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. "Open Shutters" is a testament to her unwavering talent and her enduring contribution to American literature.

"Open Shutters" by Mary Jo Salter is a captivating and deeply moving collection of poems that explores the complexities of human experience with exquisite imagery, profound themes, and impeccable craftsmanship. Its vivid sensory details, exploration of universal emotions, and masterful use of language make it a must-read for anyone who appreciates the power and beauty of poetry. Whether you are a seasoned poetry enthusiast or a newcomer to the genre, "Open Shutters" is a literary gem that will leave an unforgettable mark on your soul.



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