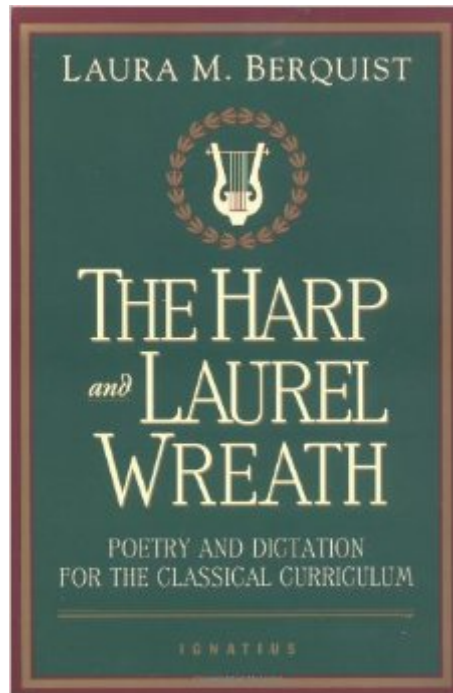


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# The Harp And Laurel Wreath: Poetry And Dictation For The Classical Curriculum



## Synopsis

Convinced that a critical part of education is to foster in our children a love of the beautiful and true, teacher and writer Laura Berquist presents this wide selection of poetry for every age level from grades one to twelve. Language development is significantly enriched by exposure to good poetry. This book is an important resource because it provides in one volume many poems that concern noble actions or ideas presented in beautiful patterns of sound. This book contains all the poems recommended in Berquist's best-selling *Designing Your Classical Curriculum*. The extensive selection includes poems by Robert Louis Stevenson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Robert Browning, William Shakespeare, G.K. Chesterton, William Butler Yeats, Robert Frost, and many others. There are three indices to help locate specific poems. This book also includes dictation selections that are useful tools in the development of the child's writing ability, as well as study questions and answers for each poem.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (24 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I did something I rarely do: I purchased this book without having previewed it (years ago). I think that it was highly recommended somewhere on the WTM site. Anyway, as a newbie, I was eager to get the book and get started -- even before the children were ready. I'm finally writing a review because I have several comments that I hope will be helpful to prospective purchasers. First, I was VERY disappointed in the book. A little background: As an English lit major who studied poetry, I felt completely comfortable selecting poems for older children to memorize. However, I felt insecure about choosing children's poetry (I mean for toddler to about 3rd grade). Well, a good number of the

early stage selections are in *A Child's Garden of Verse* by RLS, available in many beautiful picture book options. You also have the standard *Casey at the Bat*, *Charge of the Light Brigade*, and the *Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, which you can find ANYWHERE. Much of the rest, I found to be dull. I'd rather have my children memorize *Wordsworth* and *Shakespeare* earlier (she puts some selections in later), and I feel comfortable enough now doing that. So...I compiled my own list of poems for memorization. If that is too time-consuming for you to do or you feel overwhelmed with the thought of conducting a poetry memorization program at home, I recommend *Andrew Pudewa's* poetry memorization program (for your grammar stage children in particular). Although I don't care for some of his selections (elsewhere online I review his program in depth), he does an excellent job telling you HOW to do poetry memorization (a more developed system than that described in *THLW*, although similar), and he includes nifty pre-made charts and has audio recordings available for the busy mom (!

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