

## Poetic Diction: A Study in Meaning (Wesleyan Paperback)

By Owen Barfield


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Poetic Diction, first published in 1928, begins by asking why we call a given grouping of words “poetry” and why these arouse “aesthetic imagination” and produce pleasure in a receptive reader. Returning always to this personal experience of poetry, Owen Barfield at the same time seeks objective standards of criticism and a theory of poetic diction in broader philosophical considerations on the relation of world and thought. His profound musings explore concerns fundamental to the understanding and appreciation of poetry, including the nature of metaphor, poetic effect, the difference between verse and prose, and the essence of meaning.

CONTRIBUTOR: Howard Nemerov.

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## **Poetic Diction: A Study in Meaning (Wesleyan Paperback) By Owen Barfield Bibliography**

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"This extraordinary study stands virtually alone in focusing on the mysterious area in poetry between word and meaning. Only the most sensitive and learned guides could lead us through this terra incognita. Barfield is such a guide ... The book has already become a classic."-- G. B. Tennyson

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