Poetry Anthology: Poems You Love

Your anthology must include the following:

* a title page with a creative title that also lists your name as the editor
* a table of contents page, listing poem, author, page number, and reason for selecting
* at least ten poems, but no more than fifteen
* a primary works cited page, listing full publication information for each poem

Criteria for selecting poems

* Your poems must be published poems by poets. You may not collect poems you have written, or those of your friends- that assignment will come later. If you are unsure if the poems are of a suitable, ask me.
* Your poems may not be selected from the same book or website. You may choose no more than two works from a single collection.
* Your poems must be written by different authors. You may include no more than two poems by the same author.
* Your anthology may not be more than half musical lyrics. In other words you may only include lyrics for 5 songs.

Locating poems

1. From the very beginning, be sure you make note of where you located the poems. In the final anthology, you must include complete publication information for each poem selected in a works cited page in correct MLA format. If the poem has been republished on the internet, include whatever original publication information is available.
2. To begin, you will need to collect poems from various sources. While you may make use of a online resource like the Academy of American Poets Poems for Every Occasion or a print collection like The Poet’s Grimm: 20th Century Poems from Grimm Fairy Tales, you may not compile your listing of poems entirely from an existing anthology.
3. I’ve included a list of online poetry collections. Many of these resources also have links to other good online resources; ideally if you locate one that you find particularly valuable, the links for that resource will be especially worth pursuing. Remember that you need poems from multiple sources, so do look at many different web sites.
4. Don’t ignore book collections in the process either. Your textbook for the course includes a wide range of poems, as do other print anthologies. In our library, try a keyword search for “poetry and anthology,” for example, or “anthology poems.”
5. As you read through collections of poetry, you may feel overwhelmed by the huge number of poems. Don’t feel you must read every poem you run across. Skim the first few lines, look at the end of the poem, read titles. Browse. One of the goals of this assignment is to help you gain familiarity with a range of poetry, so by all means range around. Don’t limit your browsing just to reading titles, however; oftentimes a title will not reveal the subject of a poem.
6. <http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/>
7. <http://www.bartleby.com/verse/>
8. <http://www.favoritepoem.org/>
9. <http://knowingpoe.thinkport.org/default_flash.asp>
10. <http://www.luminarium.org/sevenlit/metaphysical.htm>
11. <http://www.emule.com/poetry/>
12. <http://www.poemhunter.com/>
13. <http://www2.eng.cam.ac.uk/~tpl/lit/poetry.html>
14. <http://www.poets.org/index.php>
15. <http://www.civilwarpoetry.org/>
16. <http://www.completeclassics.com/>

Anthology presentation

You will prepare your anthology using a word processing program such as Microsoft Word. Be sure that when you reproduce poems that you reproduce them *accurately*, as they appeared in their original publication—spacing, capitalization, etc. In many cases you will be able to copy and paste poems from the internet, but if you must retype a poem, please be sure to check it carefully for both spelling and formatting errors.

Your table of contents will include the list of poems with page numbers as well as a couple of sentences for each poem about why you chose that particular poem to include in your anthology.

You may make use of whatever tools you wish to enhance the appearance of your anthology. As you assemble your anthology, you will make design choices as well regarding its appearance; certainly the reader is affected by the presentation of the poems, but remember to keep your focus on the poems themselves. Please avoid ornate fonts that make the poem difficult to read or detract from the poem itself. Any illustrations included should be appropriate to the subject matter.