The Wendell Berry Catalogue

Counterpoint Press

With notes by Jack Shoemaker, Alice Waters, and independent booksellers Kris Kleindienst and Michael Boggs

“America’s greatest philosopher.” —The Chicago Tribune
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Early on in my career as a reader and bookseller, I had the habit of writing to authors whose work I admired. Sometimes these letters were filled with questions, and other times they only wished to relay the fact that I was glad to be in their company. I wrote them in care of their publishers, and it was my good luck and my good fortune that they often did write back.

After reading *The Long-Legged House*, I could barely contain my enthusiasm. A correspondence began, and soon I was invited to the farm, “if I ever found myself in Kentucky.” Another piece of good fortune took me to Louisville, and so not so long after our first letters, I rode out to Lanes Landing Farm for a brief stay, the first of many.

On one visit, I left with the typescript of a sequence, “Chinese Painting Poems,” and several months later produced a chapbook, *An Eastward Look*, the first thing Wendell and I worked on together. That gorgeous small book had fewer pages than this catalog you now hold in your hands, this catalog being the available evidence of our nearly forty-five-year-long association.

There was, I happily see now, no stopping us.

—Jack Shoemaker, Counterpoint Press

I believe the first thing I ever read by Wendell Berry was “The Salad,” his translation of “La Salade,” a poem by Pierre de Ronsard written about four hundred years ago, which was published by North Point Press about forty years ago, in a little stapled booklet with pale green wrappers and a drawing of a head of lettuce on the cover. In just a few lyrical pages, it made the best defense of salad—and the best case for living a “plain coherent life”—I had ever read. After that, I ate up most everything Wendell wrote, as soon as it appeared in print, and his influence on me is manifest—at Slow Food International, at the Edible Schoolyard Project and the Rome Sustainable Food Project, and, of course, at Chez Panisse.

But it’s not only his printed words that have been inspiring and inspiring me over the years. I once had the privilege of visiting Wendell’s farm and watching him hitch up his team. Everything about that morning glows in my memory: the sun breaking over the ridge, the warm smell of the barn, the snuffling of the horses, and, above all, the way Wendell handled those animals, the way he spoke to them and made them his collaborators—this was a demonstration of expertise, equipoise, patience, and good humor that I will never forget. Nor can I ever forget the night we gave a dinner in Wendell’s honor, and his mentor and friend, Wallace Stegner, rose to speak. (It was the last meal the two men would share.) It was one of those unplanned moments of eloquence and human harmony for which we feast. There was magic in the room.

—Alice Waters, Chez Panisse
Wendell Berry came to me first through my customers—neighbors and friends who eagerly looked forward to his next collection of essays or poems, bringing the latest volume up to the counter in my bookstore with a reverence verging on awe. His readers—my neighbors—were poets, parents, locavores, gardeners, new economists, urban revivalists, alternative thinkers, pacifists, environmental and antiwar activists. Obviously I needed to read him, and when I started, I knew I was home. Pencil in hand, notebook at the ready, I continue to read his work slowly, because that is how it demands to be read. To practice a life in harmony with the planet, with your neighbors, one must develop a rhythm of deliberate intention that our multinational corporate economy constantly threatens. Berry describes beautifully the kind of locally based, cooperative economy that the community bookstore for which I am so fortunate to be a steward needs in order to thrive and reciprocate. His work is timeless, rooted, and possessed of much deeply thoughtful integrity. He walks his talk. His ideas are proven by practice. He is a beacon, and I am grateful.

—Kris Kleindienst, co-owner, Left Bank Books (St. Louis, MO)

The first time I met Wendell Berry was shortly after my wife, Carol Besse, and I had opened Carmichael’s Bookstore in Louisville in 1978. After a wonderful reading (where many in the crowd seemed to marvel at how much they suddenly loved poetry), Wendell and I chatted briefly. I asked him if he had seen a local PBS profile of himself. He paused for a moment, cocked his head, and replied, “Well, no. Television has its place, but it’s not in the home.”

Something about that comment encapsulated everything I came to learn about Wendell over the next four decades of joint events and collaborations in causes. It is the statement of a man serious about his convictions, one who lives his beliefs, but a man who also has a twinkle of mischief in his eyes.

Wendell never preaches. He simply speaks from the heart a truth he knows too well. I think that’s why over the years we have sold tens of thousands of his titles to young people. They know there is something rotten in what we have done to nature, what we continue to do, and they are looking for someone who can articulate and focus that feeling. They leave one of his readings or talks realizing that this magical, mystical force we call nature is simply a house in which we are guests—and we must care for it because there are new guests arriving daily.

One of Wendell’s better known quotes is “What I stand for is what I stand on.” In some ways that statement is a distillation of much of his work. It lays out the map to the devastation we have thoughtlessly wrought upon the land, but is also a guide to the work that needs to be done by each of us.

—Michael Boggs, co-owner, Carmichael’s Bookstore (Louisville, KY)
WENDELL BERRY, an essayist, novelist, and poet, has been honored with the T. S. Eliot Prize for Poetry, the Aiken Taylor Award for Modern American Poetry, the John Hay Award of the Orion Society, and the Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, among others. In 2010, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal by Barack Obama, and in 2016, he was the recipient of the Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Book Critics Circle. Berry lives with his wife, Tanya Berry, on their farm in Henry County, Kentucky.

THE WORLD-ENDING FIRE
The Essential Wendell Berry

SELECTED AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY PAUL KINGSNORTH

New in 2018
Essays • Hardcover • 9781640090286
$26.00 • 368 pages • 6 x 9 • Ebook available

“Mr. Berry’s sentences and stories deliver a great payload of edifying entertainment, which I hungrily consume, but it is the bass note of morality thumping through his musical phrases that guides me with the most constant of hands upon my plow.”

— Nick Offerman, New York Times bestselling author of Paddle Your Own Canoe

“Read [Berry] with pencil in hand, make notes, and hope that somehow our country and the world will soon come to see the truth that is told here.”

— The New York Times

“He is unlike anybody else writing today.”

— New Statesman
In this powerful new collection, the noted poet, essayist, and fiction writer returns to Port William, Kentucky, the fictional town introduced in *The Wild Birds*. Berry’s narrator roamseasily through the town’s past 100 years, remarking early in the book that even the unknown past is present in us, its silence as persistent as a ringing in the ears . . . If the stories seem somber in their emphasis on loss, the pains are clearly leavened by the comforts of community and connectedness that a small town can provide. An excellent introduction to one of America’s finest prose writers.”

—Publishers Weekly
**HANNAH COULTER**
A Novel

First published in 2004
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781593760786
$14.95 • 208 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

_Hannah Coulter_ is Wendell Berry’s seventh novel and his first to employ the voice of a female character in its telling. Hannah, the now-elderly narrator, recounts the love she has for the land and for her community. She remembers each of her two husbands, and all places and relationships threatened by twentieth-century technologies. At risk is the whole culture of family farming, hope redeemed when her wayward grandson, Virgil, returns to his rural home place to work the farm.

**JAYBER CROW**
A Novel

First published in 2000
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781582431604
$15.95 • 384 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

“This is a book about Heaven,” says Jayber Crow, “but I must say too that . . . I have wondered sometimes if it would not finally turn out to be a book about Hell.” It is 1932 and he has returned to his native Port William to become the town’s barber.

Orphaned at age ten, Jayber Crow’s acquaintance with loneliness and want have made him a patient observer of the human animal, in both its goodness and frailty.

Wendell Berry’s clear-sighted depiction of humanity’s gifts—love and loss, joy and despair—is seen through his intimate knowledge of the Port William Membership.
Nathan Coulter, Wendell Berry’s first book, was published in 1960 when he was twenty-seven. Here, the author presents his readers with an introduction to what would become Berry’s life’s work, chronicling through fiction a place where the inhabitants of Port William form what is more than community—a “membership” in interrelatedness, a spiritual community, united by duty and bonds of affection for one another and for the land from which they make their livelihood.

First published in 1960  
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781582434094  
$14.95 • 128 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

The Memory of Old Jack  
First published in 1974  
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781582430430  
$15.95 • 176 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

“Few novelists treat both their characters and their readers with the kind of respect that Wendell Berry displays in this deeply moving account . . . The Memory of Old Jack is a slab of rich Americana.” —The New York Times Book Review

Old Jack, born just after the American Civil War and dying in contemporary times, spends one beautiful September day in Port William, his home since birth, remembering.

The story tells of the most searing moments of Old Jack’s life, particularly his debt to his sister Nancy and her husband, Ben Feltner, Old Jack’s model of what an honorable manhood of strength might be.
A PLACE IN TIME
Twenty Stories of the Port William Membership

First published in 2012
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781619021884
$15.95 • 256 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available

The story of the community of Port William is one of the great works in American literature. This collection, the tenth volume in the series, is the perfect occasion to celebrate Berry’s huge achievement. It feels as if the entire membership—all the Catlets, Burley Coulter, Elton Penn, the Rowanberrys, Laura Milby, Kate Helen Branch, Andy’s dog, Mike—returns with a story or two, to fill in the gaps in this long tale. Those just now joining the Membership will be charmed. Those who’ve attended before will be enriched.

A PLACE ON EARTH
A Novel

First published in 1967
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781582431246
$16.95 • 336 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

Published in 1967, we return to Port William during the Second World War to revisit Jayber Crow, the barber; Uncle Stanley, the gravedigger; Jarrat and Burley, the sharecroppers; and Brother Preston, the preacher; as well as Mat Feltner; his wife, Margaret; and his daughter-in-law Hannah, whose son will be born after news comes that Hannah’s husband, Virgil, is missing.

“The earth is the genius of our life,” Wendell Berry writes here. “The final questions and their answers lie serenely coupled in it.”
That Distant Land
The Collected Stories

First published in 2002
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781593760540
$18.95 • 448 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

Originally published in 2002, That Distant Land brings together twenty-three stories from the Port William Membership. Arranged in their fictional chronology, the book is not an anthology so much as it is a coherent temporal mapping of this landscape over time, revealing Berry’s mastery of decades of the life lived alongside this clutch of interrelated characters bound by affection and followed over generations.

This volume combines the stories found in The Wild Birds (1983), Fidelity (1992), and Watch with Me (1994), together with a map and a charting of the complex and interlocking genealogies.
THREE SHORT NOVELS
Nathan Coulter
Remembering
A World Lost

First published in 2002
Fiction • Trade Paperback • 9781582432373
$15.95 • 336 pages • 7” x 8”

A compilation of three of the shorter of Wendell Berry’s works of book-length fiction: Nathan Coulter (1960), Remembering (1990), and A World Lost (1996).

WATCH WITH ME
And Six Other Stories of the Yet-Remembered Ptolemy Proudfoot and His Wife, Miss Minnie, Née Quinch

First published in 1994
Fiction • Trade Paperback • 9781619028319
$16.95 • 224 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available

“A small treasure of a book . . . Part of a long line that descends from Chaucer to Katherine Mansfield to William Trevor.”
—Chicago Tribune

“Wendell Berry writes with a good husbandman’s care and economy . . . His stories are filled with gentle humor.”
—The New York Times Book Review

Here Wendell Berry introduces two of his more indelible and poignant characters, Ptolemy Proudfoot and his wife, Miss Minnie, remarkable for the comic and affectionate range that—with the mastery of this consummate storyteller working at the height of his powers—approaches the Shakespearean.
In Wendell Berry’s fifth novel and ninth work of fiction, Andy Catlett revisits his own ninth year in the summer of 1944 when his beloved uncle is shot and killed by the surly and mysterious Carp Harmon. This is his Uncle Andrew, after whom the boy is named, someone who savored “company, talk, some kind of to-do, something to laugh at.” Years later, still possessed by the story, Andy seeks to get to the bottom of all this, to understand the two men and their lethal connection.

In these stories, Berry traces the history of a loosely affiliated, unofficial, fictional group of dead and living men and women, ‘the membership of the fields’ in Port William, a community in Kentucky’s tobacco country . . . Told with the same intelligence, craft, and reverence that characterize Berry’s novels, essays on agriculture, and poems, these stories have at their core the necessity of human friendship, “the good that has been possible in the world . . . the good that is desirable in it.” Highly recommended.”

—Library Journal

First published in 1996
Fiction, Port William • Trade Paperback • 9781582434186
$14.95 • 112 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

“Berry deftly balances Andy’s investigation into the town’s past with an equally moving realization not only of the sustaining value of memory but of the manner in which they are shaped in enduring ways by what they love . . . a sharp portrait of a town nursing its secrets over decades.”

—Kirkus Reviews

First published in 1986
Fiction • Trade Paperback • 9781640091054
$16.95 • 144 pages • 5” x 8” • Ebook available

Reissue forthcoming Spring 2019
ESSAYS
Another Turn of the Crank

Essays

First published in 1995
Trade Paperback • 9781582437460
$13.95 • 112 pages • 5” x 8” • Ebook available

“A Kentucky farmer and writer, and perhaps the great moral essayist of our day, Berry has produced one of his shortest but also most powerful volumes.”
—The New York Review of Books

“The rarest (and highest) of literary classes consist of that small group of authors who are absolutely inimitable . . . One of the half-dozen living American authors who belongs in this class is Wendell Berry.”
—Los Angeles Times

“Berry is a philosopher, poet, novelist, and an essayist in the tradition of Emerson and Thoreau . . . Like Thoreau, he marches to a different drummer, a drummer we would do well to be aware of, if not to march to.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

The Art of Loading Brush

New Agrarian Writings

First published in 2017
Essays • Hardcover • 9781609020382
$26.00 • 240 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

“In Berry’s new book, The Art of Loading Brush, he is a frustrated advocate, speaking out against local wastefulness and distant idealism; he is a gentle friend, asserting, as he always has, the hope possible in caring for the world, and your specific place in it . . . The Art of Loading Brush is singular in Berry’s corpus.”
—The Paris Review

“Berry’s essays, continuing arguments begun in The Unsettling of America 40 years ago, will be familiar to longtime readers, blending his farm work with his interests in literature old and new . . . Vintage Berry sure to please and instruct his many admirers.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“[ Berry] has never written better.”
—Booklist (starred review)
THE ART OF THE COMMONPLACE

The Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry

EDITED AND INTRODUCED BY NORMAN WIRZBA

First published in 2002
Trade Paperback • 9781593760076
$15.95 • 352 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

“Here is a human being speaking with calm and sanity out of the wilderness. We would do well to hear him.”
—The Washington Post Book World

The Art of the Commonplace gathers twenty essays by Wendell Berry that offer an agrarian alternative to our dominant urban culture. Grouped around five themes—an agrarian critique of culture, agrarian fundamentals, agrarian economics, agrarian religion, and geobiography—these essays promote a clearly defined and compelling vision important to all people dissatisfied with the stress, anxiety, disease, and destructiveness of contemporary American culture.

BLESSDED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

Christ’s Teachings About Love, Compassion and Forgiveness

COMPILED WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY WENDELL BERRY

First published in 2005
Bible Studies • Trade Paperback • 9781593761004
$12.95 • 80 pages • 4" x 6.8" • Ebook available

Unfortunately, the teachings of Christ have often been either ignored or distorted by the very people calling themselves Christian. Today, we see a vigorous movement in America fueled by a politicized and engaged portion of the electorate involved in just such ignorance and distortion. Whether directed towards social intolerance or attitudes of warlike aggression, these right-wing citizens have claimed a power of influence that far exceeds their numbers.

Blessed Are the Peacemakers collects the sayings of Jesus, as selected by Wendell Berry, who contributes an essay of introduction. This is a book of inspiration and prayerful compassion, and, we may hope, a ringing call to action at a time when our country and the world it once led stand at a dangerous crossroads.
WENDELL BERRY
On Farming and Food
Introduction by Michael Pollan

BRINGING IT TO THE TABLE
On Farming and Food

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
MICHAEL POLLAN

First published in 2009
Essays • Trade Paperback • 9781582435435
$15.95 • 256 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

Only a farmer could delve so deeply into the origins of food, and only a writer of Wendell Berry’s caliber could convey it with such conviction and eloquence. A progenitor of the slow food movement, Wendell Berry reminds us all to take the time to understand the basics of what we ingest. “Eating is an agriculture act,” he writes. Indeed, we are all players in the food economy. For the last five decades, Berry has embodied mindful eating through his land practices and his writing. In recognition of that influence, Michael Pollan here offers an introduction to this wonderful collection that is essential reading for anyone who cares about what they eat.

CITIZENSHIP PAPERS
Essays

First published in 2003
Trade Paperback • 9781619024472
$15.95 • 190 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

“The courage of a book, it has been said, is that it looks away from nothing. Here is a brave book.”
—The Charlotte Observer

“Berry says that these recent essays mostly say again what he has said before. His faithful readers may think he hasn’t, however, said any of it better before.”
—Booklist (starred review)

“His refusal to abandon the local for the global, to sacrifice neighborliness, community integrity, and economic diversity for access to Wal-Mart, has never seemed more appealing, nor his questions of personal accountability more powerful.”
—Kirkus Reviews
A Continuous Harmony

Wendell Berry

Essays Cultural and Agricultural

First published in 1972
Trade Paperback • 9781619020009
$15.95 • 128 pages • 5” x 8” • Ebook available

“This book is broad and leisurely and important. Something like the river itself on which Wendell Berry lives. It is full of wide and flowing thoughts and one thing leads to another in the manner that nature intended, or used to. The language ranges from the grave and beautiful to the sharp and specific, depending on the need to express the vast variety of subjects he presents.”
—The Nation

DISTANT NEIGHBORS

The Selected Letters of Wendell Berry and Gary Snyder

WENDELL BERRY AND GARY SNYDER

First published in 2014
Trade Paperback • 9781619025462
$16.95 • 352 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

“The letters are valuable for ecologists, students, and teachers of contemporary American literature, and for those of us eager to know how these two distant neighbors networked, negotiated, and remained friends.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

“In Distant Neighbors, both Berry and Snyder come across as honest and open-hearted explorers. There is an overall sense that they possess a deep and questing wisdom, hard earned through land work, travel, writing, and spiritual exploration. There is no rushing, no hectoring, and no grand gestures between these two, just an ever-deepening inquiry into what makes a good life and how to live it, even in the depths of the machine age.”
—Orion Magazine
THE GIFT OF GOOD LAND
Further Essays Cultural and Agricultural

First published in 1981
Trade Paperback • 9781582434841
$15.95 • 304 pages • 5" x 8" • Ebook available

The essays in *The Gift of Good Land* are as true today as when they were first published in 1981: the problems addressed here are still true and the solutions no nearer at hand. The insistent theme of this book is the interdependence, the wholeness, the oneness of people, land, weather, animals, and family. To touch one is to tamper with them all. We live in one functioning organism whose separate parts are artificially isolated by our culture. Here, Berry develops the compelling argument that the “gift” of good land has strings attached. We have it only on loan and only for as long as we practice good stewardship.

THE HIDDEN WOUND

First published in 1970
Essays • Trade Paperback • 9781582434865
$15.95 • 160 pages • 5" x 8" • Ebook available

"A profound, passionate, crucial piece of writing... Few readers, and I think, no writers will be able to read it without a small pulse of triumph at the temples: the strange, almost communal sense of triumph one feels when someone has written truly well... The statement it makes is intricate and beautiful, sad but strong."
— *The Washington Post*

"Berry has produced one of the most humane, honest, liberating works of our time. It is a beautiful book. More than that, it has become at one stroke an essential book. Every American who can read at all should read it."
— *The Village Voice*
HOME ECONOMICS
Fourteen Essays

First published in 1987
Trade Paperback • 9781582434858
$15.95 • 208 pages • 5" x 8" • Ebook available

“Wherever we live, however we do so, we desperately need a prophet of responsibility; and although the days of the prophets seem past to many of us, Berry may be the closest to one we have. But, fortunately, he is also a poet of responsibility. He makes one believe that the good life may not only be harder than what we’re used to but sweeter as well.”
—The New York Review of Books

In Home Economics, Berry explores this process and continues to discuss what it means to make oneself “responsibly at home.” As he argues, a measure of the health of the planet is economics—the health of its households.

IMAGINATION IN PLACE

First published in 2010
Essays • Trade Paperback • 9781582437064
$14.95 • 208 pages • 6" x 9" • Ebook available

“Berry’s latest collection of essays is the reminiscence of a literary life. It is a book that acknowledges a lifetime of intellectual influences, and in doing so, positions Berry more squarely as a cornerstone of American literature... A necessary book. Here, Berry’s place as the ‘grandfather of slow food’ or the ‘prophet of rural living’ is not questioned. This book ensures we understand the depth and breadth of Berry’s art.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

“[A] stellar collection... Foodies, architects, transportation engineers, and other writers are adopting and adapting [Berry’s] concepts, perhaps leading to what he envisions will one day be ‘an authentic settlement of our country.’
—The Oregonian
"These powerful, challenging essays show why Berry’s vision of a sustainable, human-scaled society has proven so influential."
— Publishers Weekly

When he accepted the invitation to deliver the Jefferson Lecture—our nation’s highest honor for distinguished intellectual achievement—Wendell Berry wanted a fresh start, not only in looking at the groundwork of the problems facing our nation and the earth itself, but in gaining hope from some examples of repair during Late Capitalism. The result is the greatest speech he has delivered in his six decades of public life. A transcript of this speech, along with heretofore uncollected essays, *It All Turns on Affection* will take its place as another major testament to Berry’s contribution to American thought.

"[A] scathing assessment . . . Berry shows that Wilson’s much-celebrated, controversial pleas in *Consilience* to unify all branches of knowledge is nothing more than a fatuous subordination of religion, art, and everything else that is good to science . . . Berry is one of the most perceptive critics of American society writing today."
— The Washington Post

"I am tempted to say he understands [Consilience] better than Wilson himself . . . A new emancipation proclamation in which he speaks again and again about how to defy the tyranny of scientific materialism."
— The Christian Science Monitor
“Stern but compassionate, author Wendell Berry raises broader issues that environmentalists rarely focus on . . . In one sense Berry is the voice of a rural agrarian tradition that stretches from rural Kentucky back to the origins of human civilization. But his insights are universal because Our Only World is filled with beautiful, compassionate writing and careful, profound thinking.”

— Associated Press
THE POETRY OF WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS OF RUTHERFORD

First published in 2011
Criticism • Trade Paperback • 9781619021532
$15.95 • 176 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available

“Generously quoting many of Williams’ best lines, tenderly confessing when he doesn’t understand Williams (e.g., Williams’ elusive ‘variable foot’), and referring to his own life and work to clarify what he thinks about Williams, Berry produces a work of aesthetics more than evaluation, of love more than critique.”
—Booklist

“Berry’s superb study reminds us that Williams remains our contemporary not only for the lively cadences and fresh imagery that animate his poems, but for the ethical imperative of his example: to know ourselves as creatures of a particular place and, through that grounded knowledge, to develop the arts that will enable us to live in it over the long haul.”
—The Sewanee Review

SEX, ECONOMY, FREEDOM & COMMUNITY
Eight Essays

First published in 1993
Trade Paperback • 9781619021401
$16.95 • TK pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available

Reissue forthcoming Winter 2019

“Read [him] with pencil in hand, make notes, and hope that somehow our country and the world will soon come to see the truth that is told here.”
—The New York Times Book Review

In this collection of essays, Wendell Berry continues his work as one of America’s most necessary social commentators. With wisdom and clear, ringing prose, he tackles head-on some of the most difficult problems that we faced near the end of the twentieth century.

Berry elucidates connections between sexual brutality and economic brutality, and the role of art and free speech. He forcefully addresses America’s unabashed pursuit of self-liberation, which he says is “still the strongest force now operating in our society.”
In six elegant, linked literary essays, Berry considers the degeneration of language that is manifest throughout our culture, from poetry to politics, from conversation to advertising, and he shows how the ever-widening cleft between the words and their referents mirrors the increasing isolation of individuals and their communities from the land.

First published in 1983
Trade Paperback • 9781582437453
$16.95 • 208 pages • 5” x 8” • Ebook available

“This skillfully conceived book is one of the strongest contemporary arguments for literary tradition: a challenging credo, un-glib, calmly assured, clearly illuminating—and required reading for those seriously interested in the interplay between literature, ethics, and morality.”
—Kirkus Reviews

THE UNSETTLING OF AMERICA
Culture & Agriculture

Since its publication in 1977, The Unsettling of America has been recognized as a classic of American letters. In it, Berry argues that good farming is a cultural and spiritual discipline. Today’s agribusiness, however, takes farming out of its cultural context and away from families. As a result, we as a nation are more estranged from the land—from the intimate knowledge, love, and care of it.

Sadly, his arguments and observations are more relevant than ever. Although “this book has not had the happy fate of being proved wrong,” Berry writes, there are people working “to make something comely and enduring of our life on this earth.” Wendell Berry is one of those people, writing and working, as ever, with passion, eloquence, and conviction.
The continuing war in Iraq, Hurricane Katrina, the political sniping engendered by the Supreme Court nominations—contemporary American society is characterized by divisive anger, profound loss, and danger. Wendell Berry, one of the country’s foremost cultural critics, responds with hope and intelligence in a series of essays that tackle the major questions of the day. Whose freedom are we considering when we speak of the “free market” or “free enterprise”? What is really involved in our national security? What is the price of ownership without affection? Berry answers in prose that shuns abstraction for clarity, coherence, and passion, giving us essays that may be the finest of his long career.

First published in 2005
Trade Paperback • 9781593761196
$15.95 • 192 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

Ranging from America’s insatiable consumerism and household economies to literary subjects and America’s attitude toward waste, here Berry gracefully navigates from one topic to the next. He speaks candidly about the ills plaguing America and the growing gap between people and the land. Despite the somber nature of these essays, Berry’s voice and prose provide an underlying sense of faith and hope. He frames his reflections with poetic responsibility, standing up as a firm believer in the power of the human race not only to fix its past mistakes but also to build a future that will provide a better life for all.

First published in 1990
Trade Paperback • 9781582434872
$15.95 • 224 pages • 5” x 8” • Ebook available
“The reasoned and insistent exhortations of a man with a cause who, rather than mellowing with age and wisdom, continues to grow in forcefulness and vision.”
—Booklist

For this collection, Berry offers essays from the last twenty-five years, alongside new essays about the recent economic collapse, including “Money Versus Goods” and “Faustian Economics,” treatises of great alarm and courage. He offers advice and perspective as our society attempts to steer from its present chaos and recession to a future of hope and opportunity. With urgency and clarity, Berry asks us to look toward a true sustainable commonwealth, grounded in realistic Jeffersonian principles applied to our present day.
POETRY
First published in 1973, *The Country of Marriage* is Wendell Berry's fifth volume of poetry. What he calls “an expansive metaphor” is “a farmer's relationship to his land as the basic and central relation of humanity to creation . . . Similarly, marriage is the basic and central community tie . . . And these relationships are in turn basic to, and may stand for, our relationship to God and to the sustaining mysteries and powers of creation.” Each of the thirty-five poems in this collection is concerned with this metaphor. Most notably, there are more poems from the Mad Farmer, who advises us here to “every day do something that won’t compute.”

In these poems, Wendell Berry combines plainspoken elegance with deeply felt emotion—this is a work of both remembrance and regeneration. Whether writing as the son of a dying father or as the father of a daughter about to be wed, Berry plumbs the complexities of conflict, grief, loss, and love. He celebrates life from the domestic to the eternal, finding in the everyday that which is everlasting.
THE FARM

WITH DRAWINGS BY CAROLYN WHITESEL

First published in 1995
Poetry • Hardcover • 9781640090958
$18.95 • 64 pages • 4' x 6' • Ebook available

Available October 2018

This beautifully designed gift edition of this book-length poem, illustrated with drawings by Carolyn Whitesel, was first composed and printed in 1995 by Gray Zeitz of Larkspur Press in Monterey, Kentucky. Ours is a faithful reproduction of that lovely book.

FARMING

A Handbook

WITH DRAWINGS BY CAROLYN WHITESEL

First published in 1970
Poetry • Trade Paperback • 9781582437637
$15.95 • 128 pages • 5.5' x 8' • Ebook available

The sanity and eloquence of these poems spring from the land in Kentucky where Wendell Berry was born, married, lives, farms, and writes. From classic pastoral themes both lyrical and reflective, to a verse play, to a dramatic narrative and the manic, entertaining, prescient ravings of Berry’s Mad Farmer, these poems show a unity of language and consciousness, skill and sensitivity, that has placed Wendell Berry at the front rank of contemporary American poets.
For five decades, Wendell Berry has been a poet of great clarity and purpose. He is an award-winning writer whose imagination is grounded by the pastures of his chosen place and the rooms and porches of his family’s home. In *Given*, the work is as rich and varied as ever before. With his unmistakable voice as the constant, he dexterously maneuvers through a variety of forms and themes—political cautions, love poems, a play in verse, and a long series of Sabbath Poems that resulted from Berry’s Sunday-morning walks of meditation and observation.

“Berry has become ever more prophetic... In the Sabbaths of 2005–08 published here, Berry angrily mourns the degradation of the nation wrought by destruction of the land and the pursuit of wealth and power. He says that we must prepare to live without hope for a while, though in the very first of the Sabbaths, he prays not to lose love along with hope: ‘Help me, please, to carry / this candle against the wind.’ Despite anger and bitterness, he often recalls and teaches the beauty and propriety of creation, too. If he is a Jeremiah, he is also a David the psalmist.”

—Booklist
Here, Wendell Berry revisits for the first time his immensely popular Collected Poems, which The New York Times Book Review described as “a straightforward search for a life connected to the soil, for marriage as a sacrament, and family life” and “[returns] American poetry to a Wordsworthian clarity of purpose.” In New Collected Poems, Berry reprints the nearly two hundred pieces in Collected Poems, along with the poems from his most recent collections—Entries, Given, and Leavings—to create an expanded collection, showcasing the work of a man heralded by The Baltimore Sun as “a sophisticated, philosophical poet in the line descending from Emerson and Thoreau . . . A major poet of our time.”

THE MAD FARMER POEMS

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY ED McCLANAHAN

First published in 2008
Trade Paperback • 9781619022775
$14.95 • 64 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available

During the otherwise quiet course of his life as a poet, Wendell Berry has become “mad” at what contemporary society has made of its land, its communities, and its past. This anger reaches its peak in the poems of the Mad Farmer, an open-ended sequence he’s found himself impelled to continue against his better instincts. These poems can take the shape of manifestos, meditations, insults, Whitmanic fits and ravings—these are often funny in spite of themselves. The Mad Farmer is a character as necessary, perhaps, as he is regrettable.

NEW COLLECTED POEMS

First published in 2012
Trade Paperback • 9781619021525
$20.95 • 352 pages • 6” x 9” • Ebook available

Here, Wendell Berry revisits for the first time his immensely popular Collected Poems, which The New York Times Book Review described as “a straightforward search for a life connected to the soil, for marriage as a sacrament, and family life” and “[returns] American poetry to a Wordsworthian clarity of purpose.” In New Collected Poems, Berry reprints the nearly two hundred pieces in Collected Poems, along with the poems from his most recent collections—Entries, Given, and Leavings—to create an expanded collection, showcasing the work of a man heralded by The Baltimore Sun as “a sophisticated, philosophical poet in the line descending from Emerson and Thoreau . . . A major poet of our time.”
The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry

The selected poems of Wendell Berry gather one hundred poems written between 1957 and 1996. Chosen by the author, these pieces have been selected from each of nine previously published collections. The rich work in this volume reflects the development of Berry's poetic sensibility over four decades. Focusing on themes that have occupied his work for years—land and nature, family and community, tradition as the groundwork for life and culture—The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry celebrates the broad range of this vital and transforming poet.

Roots to the Earth

In 1995, Wendell Berry's Roots to the Earth was published in portfolio form by West Meadow Press. The wood etchings of celebrated artist and wood engraver, Wesley Bates, were printed from the original wood blocks on handmade Japanese paper. In 2014, this work was reprinted at Larkspur Press, along with additional poems. It is now with great pleasure that Counterpoint reproduces this collaborative work for trade publication, as well as expanding it with the inclusion of a short story, “The Branch Way of Doing,” and additional engravings by Bates.
Tom Pohrt spent years gathering poems by Wendell Berry that he thought children might read and appreciate, making sketches to accompany his selection. Terrapin is the result, a volume of twenty-one poems with dozens of sketches, drawings, and watercolors. In full color, we have not only a volume of staggering beauty but also a consummate example of the collaborative effort that is fine bookmaking; the perfect gift for children, grandchildren, or anyone who remains a lover of the book as physical object.
Berry’s Sabbath Poems embrace much that is elemental to human life—beauty, death, peace, and hope. In his preface, Berry writes about the growing audience for public poetry readings. While he sees poetry in the public eye as a good thing, Berry asks us to recognize the private life of the poem. These Sabbath Poems were written “in silence, in solitude, and mainly out of doors,” and tell us about “moments when heart and mind are open and aware.”
Composed while Wendell Berry looked out the multipaned window of his writing studio, this early sequence of poems contemplates Berry’s personal life as much as it ponders the seasons he witnessed through the window. First designed and printed on a Washington hand press by Bob Barris at the Press on Scroll Road, *Window Poems* includes elegant wood engravings by Wesley Bates that complement the reflective and meditative beauty of Berry’s poems.
The specifications and prices in this catalog are subject to change without notice.