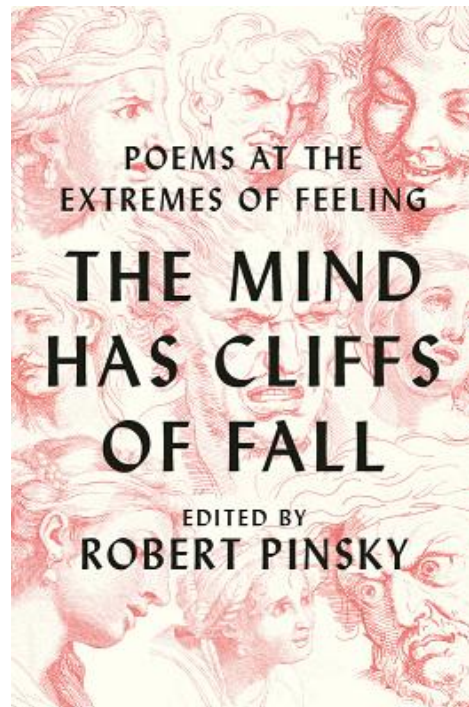


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By Robert Pinsky



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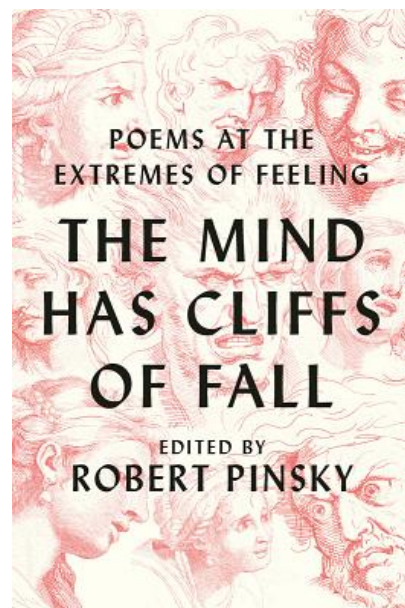


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Despair, mania, rage, guilt, derangement, fantasy: poetry is our most intimate, personal source for the urgency of these experiences. Poems get under our skin; they engage with the balm, and the sting, of understanding. In *The Mind Has Cliffs of Fall*—its title inspired by a Gerard Manley Hopkins poem—acclaimed poet Robert Pinsky gives us more than 130 poems that explore emotion at its most expansive, distinct, and profound. With seven illuminating chapters and succinct headnotes for each poem, Pinsky leads us through the book's sweeping historical range. Each chapter, with contents chronologically presented from Shakespeare to Terrance Hayes, Dante to Patricia Lockwood, shows the persistence and variation in our states of mind. "The Sleep of Reason" explores sanity and the imagination, moving from William Cowper's "Lines Written During a Time of Insanity" to Nicole Sealey's "a violence." "Grief" includes Walt Whitman's "When Lilacs last in the Door-yard Bloom'd" and Marie Howe's "What

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