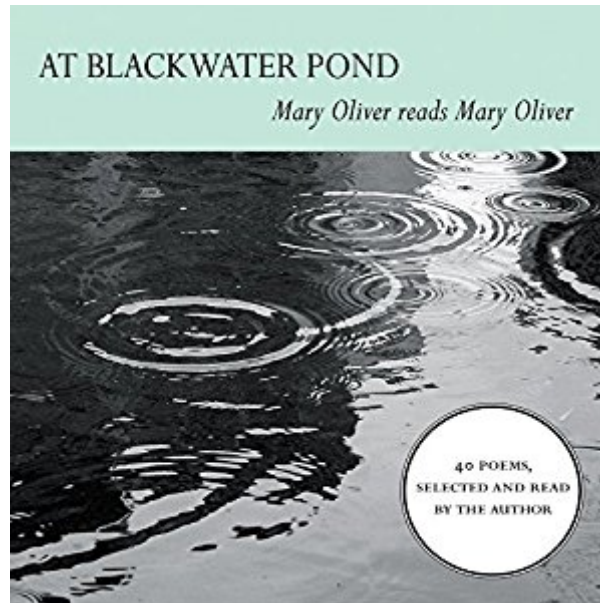


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# At Blackwater Pond: Mary Oliver Reads Mary Oliver



## Synopsis

Mary Oliver has published fifteen volumes of poetry and five books of prose in the span of four decades, but she rarely performs her poetry in live readings. Now, with the arrival of *At Blackwater Pond*, Mary Oliver has given her audience what they've longed to hear: the poet's voice reading her own work. In this beautifully produced audiobook, Mary Oliver has recorded forty of her favorite poems, nearly spanning the length of her career, from *Dream Work* through her newest volume, *New and Selected Poems, Volume Two*.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 1 hour

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Beacon Press

Audible.com Release Date: September 19, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B005O1YU3S

Best Sellers Rank: #52 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Poetry #83 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Women Authors #101 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Women Writers

## Customer Reviews

This is an excellent CD. Mary Oliver's reading voice is very interesting and adds an additional dimension to her wonderful poems. They also don't mess up the simplicity of her reading voice with background music or any other distractions. It's about 40 poems, drawn from various books.

A wonderful collection from a wonderful career - and hopefully there are many more collections to come. Sound quality is generally extremely good, though one or two tracks seem to be down on level, but hearing the poet read her own work gives the listener/reader that added benefit. Essential listening.

Mary Oliver is certainly one of our finest contemporary poets. Her terse and sparse use of language in effect widens our horizons as we readers are able to expand our vision through her creative work. This CD has ample examples of her poetry, from several different volumes, and the listener can

accompany the readings with personal copies of the published works. Oliver's ability to use the natural settings of her New England environment to state something profound about the human condition is one of her gifts. To see in the ordinary what is unforgettable, is another. Her language is visual, so that we see what she describes in new ways. This collection of poems, read by the poet, is a classic and one to be treasured and listened to over and over.

Hearing how Mary Oliver read her poetry gave me 'lessons' in how to approach and make pointed pauses that give the poetry breathing time to resonate with the thought. Which can make a huge difference in the meaning. Poetry grows with familiarity and understanding.

The DVD itself is technically a little wanting -- the recordings of the poet reading clearly come from a variety of different events and are patched together with varying levels of care. However, the poems are beautiful and it is a joy to hear Oliver's voice speaking them.

Mary Oliver is a Pulitzer Prize winning poet. Non-dogmatic spirituality quietly grabs you through her Zen awareness of the here and now. In and of themselves, her poems are passionate. Having her read them aloud is an extra bonus. This is a great collection to listen to when stuck in a traffic jam or when settling down at night for a peaceful sleep. Mary Oliver reading Mary Oliver. It's like pie a la mode!

I have loved Mary Oliver's sharp yet somehow gentle observations about the natural world for years. I love this recording of her reading her own work. After an intense day at work, it brings me back to sanity.

Listening to Mary Oliver read her own poetry is a joyful, serene experience. "Wild Geese" is one poem that I could hear several times each day. I am grounded by listening to Mary Oliver.

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