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Australia's Bush Poets - Banjo Paterson Part 1



Synopsis

A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson was the most published of the bush poets whose writing ranged across a love of the outback, bush horse racing, droving, Australian Boer War and WW1 experience, and as a social commentary. His 'Banjo' nickname comes from a famous racehorse, not a musical ability, and whose best known work 'Waltzing Matilda' came from the experiences of the 'Shearers Strike'. The press of the time tended to pitch Banjo as an adversary of Henry Lawson and others, including a 'Battle of the Poets' based on 'Town' vs. 'Outback'. My collection includes one hundred and twenty Banjo Paterson poems which I have split into three parts. Part 1 includes some of Banjo's best known work after which his poems are listed in alphabetical order through parts 2 and 3. In Part 2 I couldn't bring myself to split the Saltbush Bill series; if you only get a chance for a couple of humorous poems I would recommend Saltbush Bill and Saltbush Bill's Second Fight. Poems included in Part 1:- Prelude, A Bush Christening, Black Harry's Team, Black Swans, Clancy of the Overflow, Daylight is Dying, Geebung Polo Club, On Kiley's Run, Pioneers, Song of the Artesian Water, The Man From Ironbark, The Man From Snowy River, The Plains, The Travelling Post Office, The Weather Prophet, The Wind's Message, Waltzing Matilda, We're All Australians Now, With The Cattle, A Bushman's Song, A Disqualified Jockey's Story, A Mountain Station, A Voice From The Town, A Walgett Episode, An Answer To Various Bards, A Dream Of The Melbourne Cup, An Idyll Of Dandaloo, Anthony Considine, Any Other Time, A Bunch Of Roses, A Grain Of Desert Sand, All For Me Grog, As Long As Your Eyes Are Blue, Bandy Burke, Been There Before, Boots, Bottle Oh, Brumby's Run, By The Grey Gulf-Water, Camouflage, City Of Dreadful Thirst, Come-By-Chance, Conroy's Gap, Do They Know?, Father Riley's Horse, Australia's 'bush poets' provide a rich, entertaining history of the development from settlement to nationhood for the 'Lucky Country'. In their verse newcomers, like me, quickly learn how the Aussie 'Can Do' culture was formed that has come to define the modern nation. Unlike the classic English poets such as Wordsworth, Keats and Shelley, Australia's bush poets are largely drawn from the grass roots (working class) of the new society telling their tales as entertainment for the new Australians. Hugely popular during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries these bards are little known outside Australia, which is our loss? Through the publication of 'Australia's Bush Poets' as Kindle Editions I hope that you too will come to enjoy and share this 'Can Do' heritage. Here you'll find struggle, loss, pain and gritty reality mixed in with liberal helpings of Aussie humour; I leave it to you to make the pick. Kindle is the ideal medium for 'Australia's Bush Poets' as you can read these verses round a trail campfire at night or when sheltering from the blazing sun; best of all a Kindle will fit in your pocket while riding a droving horse, exactly the situation this poetry was designed for.

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Customer Reviews

This collection includes some of the most popular poems by the Australian poet A.B. "Banjo" Patterson, including "Man from Snowy River," "Clancy of the Overflow," and "Brumby's Run." Best known for penning "Waltzing Matilda," Patterson wrote poetry about the Australian Bush, the rough country of the mountains and the edges of the central desert. The formatting is good and it is easy to skim through to find favorites. There are a few typos, but nothing that drags the reader completely out of the poems. Fans of Kipling, and of the American and Canadian cowboy poets such as Badger Clark and Red Stegall will find much to enjoy in this small collection, as will anyone who enjoys bounding ballads of daring-do (and foolishness), along with more thoughtful, slower poems. Volume Two includes the Sagebrush Bill poems and other related work.

I'm glad to have the my favorite poems by "Banjo" Patterson on my Kindle. But I doubt I'll look at them much except when I especially want to see a particular one. The reason is: there is no linked table of contents. To find a particular poem you have to hunt for it, which, with no page numbers, is dumb. There is a list of the poems, in the order in which they appear, so you don't have to do a

purely random search, but it's still very tedious.

Some of my old favorites and some I have not read. The movie "Man From Snowy River" was based on one of Banjo's Poems. These are glimpse into country Australia a hundred years ago.

Loved Aussie poetry all my life. Must have had a good english teacher along the way. It's great to have a fresh read of poetry of the past

Banjo has a way of bring both the town and country together and really brings to life the feel of the true Australia. Had a great time sharing some of his bush poetry with a great bunch of Aussie Lions Club members celebrating Australia day. Somehow Banjo seems to reach not the hearts and humour of Australians.

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