



Enjoy [Cast Away: Poems for Our Time](#), available on Hoopla as an ebook or digital audiobook with your Oak Park Public Library card. New to Hoopla? [Get more information »](#)

Naomi Shihab Nye is the Poetry Foundation's [Young People's Poet Laureate](#), though she writes poetry and novels alike, for all ages. Many of her poems are written in [free verse](#), which means they don't necessarily rhyme or follow a pattern, but flow more like regular speech.

Here's what the author has to say about poetry: "I have always loved the gaps, the spaces between things, as much as the things. I love staring, pondering, mulling, puttering. I love the times when someone or something is late—there's that rich possibility of noticing more, in the meantime ... Poetry calls us to pause. There is so much we overlook, while the abundance around us continues to shimmer, on its own."

Some people say poetry is like painting a picture with words—what do you think?

[Watch Naomi Shihab Nye read aloud several poems from Cast Away »](#)

Want to talk to other kids and families about *Cast Away*? Join our Zoom discussion on Sunday, April 25 at 3 pm! Poet Luis Tubens also will be on hand to teach us more about poetry. All are welcome, and we're happy to see friends and family from afar, as well. [Register for the program in Zoom now »](#)