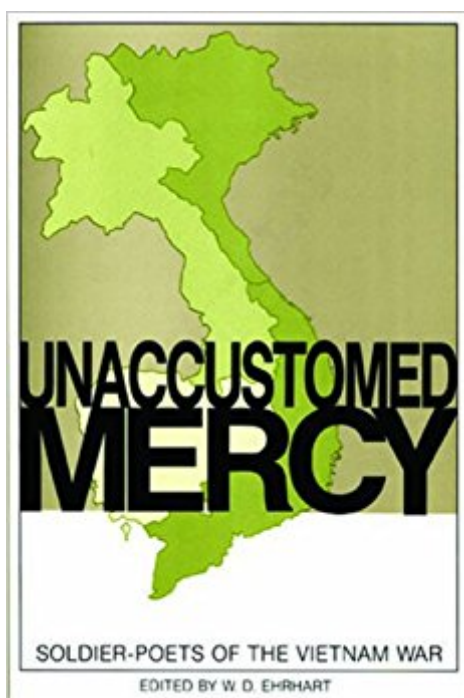


The book was found

# Unaccustomed Mercy: Soldier-Poets Of The Vietnam War



## Synopsis

Every poet in this anthology represents the terrible beauty that Vietnam engendered in sensitive hearts, the curious grace with which the human spirit can endow even the ugliest realities. "No one will get out of this volume without being hammered in the heart and singed in the soul. I could touch the tears on page after page." — Wallace Terry

## Book Information

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: Texas Tech University Press (January 15, 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0896721906

ISBN-13: 978-0896721906

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,596,377 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Poetry](#) #7809 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States](#) #130791 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > United States](#)

## Customer Reviews

After Our War by John Balaban Along The Mekong by John Balaban April 30, 1975; For Bui Ngoc Huong by John Balaban The Dragonfish by John Balaban For Mrs. Cam, Whose Name Means 'printed Silk' by John Balaban The Guard At The Binh Thuy Bridge by John Balaban In Celebration Of Spring by John Balaban Mau Than by John Balaban Mr. Giai's Poem by John Balaban News Update by John Balaban Opening Le Ba Khon's Dictionary by John Balaban Story by John Balaban Thoughts Before Dawn; For Mary Bui Thi Khuy, 1944-1969 by John Balaban Words For My Daughter by John Balaban Floating Petals by Jan Barry Green Hell, Green Death by Jan Barry Harvest Moon by Jan Barry In The Footsteps Of Ghengis Khan by Jan Barry Lessons by Jan Barry Nights In Nha Trang by Jan Barry A Nun In Ninh Hoa by Jan Barry Coming Home by D. F. Brown Eating The Forest by D. F. Brown First Person - 1981 by D. F. Brown I Was Dancing Alone In Binh Dinh Province by D. F. Brown Illumination by D. F. Brown Patrols by D. F. Brown Returning Fire; For Bruce Weigl And Ngo Vinh Long by D. F. Brown Still Later There Are War Stories by D. F. Brown Vietnamization by D. F. Brown When I Am 19 I Was A Medic by D. F. Brown A Bummer by Michael

Casey For The Old Man by Michael Casey Hoa Binh by Michael Casey The Lz Gator Body Collector by Michael Casey Road Hazard by Michael Casey A Black Soldier Remembers by Horace Coleman A Downed Black Pilot Learns How To Fly by Horace Coleman In Ca Mau by Horace Coleman Night Flare Drop, Ten Son Nhut by Horace Coleman Ok Corral East - Brothers In The Nam by Horace Coleman Remembrance Of Things Past by Horace Coleman The Blizzard Of Sixty-six by William Daniel Ehrhart A Confirmation; For Gerry Gaffney by William Daniel Ehrhart Farmer Nguyen by William Daniel Ehrhart Guerrilla War by William Daniel Ehrhart Hunting by William Daniel Ehrhart Letter; To A North Vietnamese Soldier by William Daniel Ehrhart Making The Children Behave by William Daniel Ehrhart The Next Step by William Daniel Ehrhart Night Patrol by William Daniel Ehrhart A Relative Thing by William Daniel Ehrhart To Those Who Have Gone Home by William Daniel Ehrhart Twice Betrayed by William Daniel Ehrhart Captain James Leson, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Corporal Charles Chungtu, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Corporal Kevin Spina, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Lance Corporal Purdue Grace, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Private First Class Brooks Morgenstein, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Private Ian Godwin, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Private Jack Smith, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd Sergeant Brandon Just, U.s.m.c. by Bryan Alec Floyd After The Fall by Yusef Komunyakaa Boat People by Yusef Komunyakaa A Break From The Bush by Yusef Komunyakaa The Dead At Quang Tri by Yusef Komunyakaa Prisoners by Yusef Komunyakaa Somewhere Near Phu Bai by Yusef Komunyakaa Starlight Scope Myopia by Yusef Komunyakaa Thanks by Yusef Komunyakaa Arrival by Gerald Mccarthy The Fall Of Da Nang by Gerald Mccarthy Finding My Way Back by Gerald Mccarthy The Hooded Legion by Gerald Mccarthy The Sound Of Guns by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 1. Med Building by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 11 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 12 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 14 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 17 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 19 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 7 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 8 by Gerald Mccarthy War Story: 9 by Gerald Mccarthy After The Noise Of Saigon by Walter Robert Mcdonald Caliban In Blue by Walter Robert Mcdonald Christmas Bells, Saigon by Walter Robert Mcdonald Faraway Places by Walter Robert Mcdonald The Food Pickers Of Saigon by Walter Robert Mcdonald For Friends Missing In Action by Walter Robert Mcdonald For Harper, Killed In Action by Walter Robert Mcdonald For Kelly, Missing In Action by Walter Robert Mcdonald Interview With A Guy Named Fawkes, U.s. Army by Walter Robert Mcdonald New Guy by Walter Robert Mcdonald Once You've Been To War by Walter Robert Mcdonald The Retired Pilot To Himself by Walter Robert Mcdonald Rocket Attack (2) by Walter Robert Mcdonald War Games by Walter Robert Mcdonald The Winter Before The War (2) by Walter Robert Mcdonald Basket Case by Basil T. Paquet Easter '68 by Basil T. Paquet Graves Registration

by Basil T. Paquet Group Shot by Basil T. Paquet In A Plantation by Basil T. Paquet It Is Monsoon  
At Last by Basil T. Paquet Morning - A Death by Basil T. Paquet Mourning The Death, By  
Hemorrhage, Of A Child From Honai by Basil T. Paquet Night Dust-off by Basil T. Paquet They Do  
Not Go Gentle by Basil T. Paquet Amnesia by Bruce Weigl Burning Shit At An Khe by Bruce Weigl  
Girl At The Chu Lai Laundry by Bruce Weigl Him, On The Bicycle by Bruce Weigl Mines by Bruce  
Weigl Monkey by Bruce Weigl On The Anniversary Of Her Grace by Bruce Weigl Sailing To Bien  
Hoa by Bruce Weigl The Sharing by Bruce Weigl Song For The Lost Private by Bruce Weigl Song  
Of Napalm by Bruce Weigl Surrounding Blues On The Way Down by Bruce Weigl Temple Near  
Quang Tri, Not On The Map by Bruce Weigl What Saves Us by Bruce Weigl -- Table of Poems from  
Poem Finder™

W. D. Ehrhart holds an Honorable Discharge from the US Marine Corps and a PhD from the University of Wales at Swansea. The recipient of the President's Medal from Veterans for Peace, a Pew Fellowship in the Arts, two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Fellowships, a Mary Roberts Rinehart Foundation Grant, and an Excellence in the Arts Award from Vietnam Veterans of America, he is the husband of Anne and father of Leela, and teaches English and history at the Haverford School in suburban Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he also coaches winter track and sponsors the school's student journal of literature and art. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I know poetry. I teach the stuff. I don't know war. Firsthand, that is. But I suspect I've come as close as I'll get by reading *Unaccustomed Mercy*. I very much enjoy poetry, but I don't like - really like - many poems. So much poetry is solipsistic slop and slobbering encased in fine technique. This book is different. This book is real. Ehrhart offers us slice after slice of war, of being right in the middle of it, of it being right in the middle of you, physically, emotionally, and years after it was supposedly over. Ehrhart's editing is masterful. He's earned the right to choose who goes in the book, and he's chosen well. Some critics have said that what these works lack in poetic technique they make up for in gut-searing impact. Half right. The necessary technique is there. Whether studied or intuitive, form fits content in poem after poem. I have a PhD in literature. I write and publish this stuff. Well, not this stuff. I've not lived this stuff, thank God. Every poet in this book has though. And they've let me get close. We all know the war was bullsh\*t. Still, readers will thank the poets for their poems and their service.

War poetry, as opposed to poetry written by veterans, is certainly not new. The "Iliad" comes to

mind. Most English literature classes also throw in poetry from World War I, which produced the likes of Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon. Not since Vietnam has American Literature produced such fine poets. Thanks to the best-known Vietnam War poet Will Ehrhart, often described as the "Poet Laureate of the Vietnam War," we have a number of such poets being published. Ehrhart (Marine) is known for early work such as "A Relative Thing," an angry statement reminding America that we returned veterans did "your" work ("accomplices in this travesty of dreams") and that "we are your sons, America, and you cannot change that." In "Letter," we see hope on the horizon. Bruce Weigl (Army) is my second favorite poet. It is from his "Monkey" that the title of this collection comes from. "Burning \*\*\*\* at An Khe" speaks to us Vietnam veterans on more than one level. "Song for the Lost Private," about the death of a friend, and "Anna Grasa," about his reaction to a family "welcome home" truly capture some of our inner feelings. Walter McDonald (Air Force) can write some varied poetry, from people to places. "For Kelly, Missing In Action," and "For Harper, Killed In Action," are about obvious topics. Likewise, "After the Noise of Saigon," and "For Friends Missing in Action" should be read in tandem. His "Interview with a Guy Named Fawkes, U.S. Army" is simply too witty for description. Bryan Alec Floyd (Marine) writes one of the most poignant poems in this book. All his poems in this collection are named after individuals. His "Private First Class Brooks Morgenstein, U.S.M.C." is the one poem all should read. Brooks has a wife at home, and this is the sole reason for his being and his survival. "He only knew as he held his rifle/during a sweeping operation/that next year he would hold her/and when he kissed her/his tongue would touch hers/and she would feel/as though a piece of the sun/was in her mouth." I know I am leaving out all the other fine poets represented in this book, not least Jan Barry, a close friend of Ehrhart's. We all owe our gratitude not just to the poets of the Vietnam War, but most certainly to Will Ehrhart for ceaselessly working to bring us this exceptionally beautiful form of expression.

All other attempts to post have failed. This is a test.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Unaccustomed Mercy: Soldier-Poets of the Vietnam War World War 1: Soldier Stories: The Untold Soldier Stories on the Battlefields of WWI (World War I, WWI, World War One, Great War, First World War, Soldier Stories) Unaccustomed Earth (Vintage Contemporaries) The Great Poets William Blake (Naxos Great Poets) Taste Of Vietnam: Get the Best Out Of Your Great Trip. All you need to know about the best of Vietnam. Asian Travel Book Series. (Ultimate Vietnam Travel Guide) Vietnam Travel Guide - Your Guidebook Through Cities, Nature, Museums and Historical Monuments: A guidebook on Vietnam travel - Things you can do in Vietnam Glory Denied: The

Vietnam Saga of Jim Thompson, America's Longest-Held Prisoner of War: The Vietnam Saga of Jim Thompson, America's Longest-Held Prisoner of War Finnish Soldier vs Soviet Soldier: Winter War 1939-40 (Combat) Mercy's Joy (He Who Finds Mercy Book 5) Finding Mercy: A Novel (Mercy Medallion Trilogy Book 2) Mercy Thompson: Hopcross Jilly (Mercy Thompson Novels) Shifting Shadows: Stories from the World of Mercy Thompson (A Mercy Thompson Novel) Mercy Moves Mountains: Heart-Gripping Stories of God's Extraordinary Mercy and Grace to Troubled Young Girls World War 2 History 10 Most Incredible Women: World War II True Accounts Of Remarkable Women Heroes (WWII history, WW2, War books, world war 2 books, war history, World war 2 women) World War 2: German Tank Crew Stories: Eyewitness Accounts (German War, WW2, World War II, Soldier Stories, Waffen SS, Last Panther, DDay, Panzer, Hitler Book 1) A Vietnam Presence: Mennonites in Vietnam During the American War Vietnam and America: The Most Comprehensive Documented History of the Vietnam War The Surprising Asians: A Vietnam War-era hitch-hike round Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam The Devil Soldier: The American Soldier of Fortune Who Became a God in China Canadian Corps Soldier vs Royal Bavarian Soldier: Vimy Ridge to Passchendaele 1917 (Combat)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)