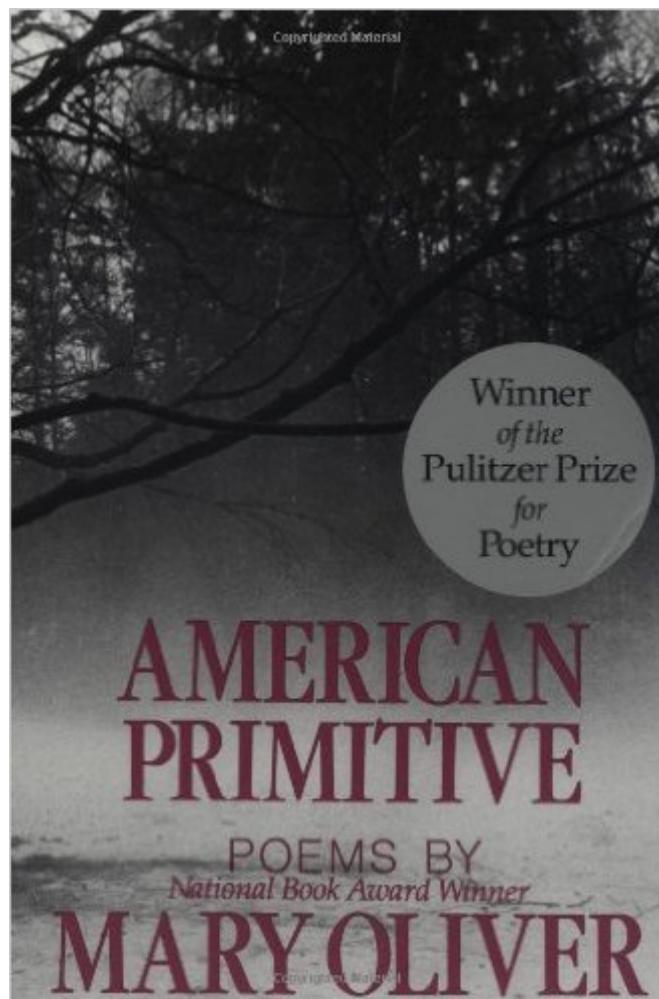


The book was found

# American Primitive



## Synopsis

The fifty poems in "American Primitive" make up a body of luminous unity. Mary Oliver's visionary poems enunciate the renewals of nature and the renewals of humanity in love, in oneness with the natural, in union with the things of this world. Lyrical and elegiac, Mary Oliver celebrates the primitive things of America - the wilderness that survives both within our bodies and outside - in "...the cords/ of my body stretching/ and singing in the/ heaven of appetite."

## Book Information

Paperback: 88 pages

Publisher: Back Bay Books; 1st edition (April 30, 1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316650048

ISBN-13: 978-0316650045

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (43 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #42,417 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #165 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States #10116 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > United States

## Customer Reviews

To read any poem by Mary Oliver is to be in the presence of the exquisite potential of language for marrying beauty and wisdom. Rarely a poet, so inclined not to impose her view nor her beliefs on anyone, can leave such profound impression on how we may come to see the world. And to read -to live, really- each poem of "American Primitive" is to educate your heart. Someone said, very appropriately so, that Oliver's poems may have the less humans in them than any contemporary poet's body of work, yet in the case of this magnificent book, two of its most stunning choices -"John Chapman" and "The Lost Children"- has Oliver bring the same keen compassion and awe for the tragic and the gracious in being our kind, that she does when speaking of foxes, mushrooms, or crows and owls."John Chapman," for instance, contains some of the wisest lines about being one of us, humans, that you will find in American poetry. Chapman was the real John Appleseed who "thought little, / on a rainy night, / of sharing the shelter of a hollow log touching / flesh with any creatures there" and, yet, as a woman in the poems recalls "he spoke / only once of women and his gray eyes / brittled into ice. "Some / are deceivers," he whispered, and she felt / the pain of it,

remembered it / into her old age."I wonder if Oliver chose him because he lived his life during those times when this country was learning to be this country -and perhaps because of it- we were, for the last time, as close as a species to the rest of nature as we ever had."The Lost Children" is also about those times too, yet about those of one kind taken by those who were the natives to this land.

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

American Primitive Hooked Rugs: A Primer for Recreating Antique Rugs American Primitive Purely Primitive Dolls: How to Make Simple, Old-Fashioned Dolls The Hunting & Gathering Survival Manual: 221 Primitive & Wilderness Survival Skills Researches into the Origin of the Primitive Constellations of the Greeks, Phoenicians and Babylonians. Vol. II Caliban and the Witch: Women, the Body and Primitive Accumulation 20 Idioms in 20 Days: Master the Most Important American Expressions: English Basics: Your Complete Guide to American Phrases Volume 1: Real American Idioms ... Your Complete Guide to American Idioms) 20 Idioms in 20 Days: Master the Most Important American Expressions: English Basics: Your Complete Guide to American Phrases #2: Real American Idioms ... Your Complete Guide to American Idioms) American History: The People & Events that Changed American History (People's History, American, United States of America, American Revolution, Patriot, United States History Book 1) American Cinema of the 1940s: Themes and Variations (Screen Decades: American Culture/American Cinema) American Sniper: The Incredible Biography of an American Hero, Chris Kyle (Chris Kyle, Iraq War, Navy Seal, American Icons, History, Biography, PTSD) Native America: A Concise Guide To Native American History - Native Americans, Indian American, Slavery & Colonization (Crazy Horse, Custer, Slavery, American Archaeology, Genocide, Aztec) American Indian Law, Cases and Commentary, 2d (American Casebook) (American Casebook Series) American Indians and the Law: The Penguin Library of American Indian History (Penguin's Library of American Indian History) Administrative Law, the American Public Law System: Cases and Materials (American Casebooks) (American Casebook Series) The Care and Keeping of You (American Girl) (American Girl Library) Scientific American, September 1969, Acoustical Holography, 1969, Scientific American, Volume 221, Number 4. Coins of the Holy Land: The Abraham and Marian Sofaer Collection at the American Numismatic Society and the Israel Museum (Ancient Coins in North American Collections) American Tin-Litho Toys: Including Ohio Art, Wolverine, Marx, Chein and More- A Collectors Guide to Identification, Pricing and History of American Tin-Lithographed Toys Early Knives & Beaded Sheaths of the American Frontier (Of the American Frontier Series)

[Dmca](#)