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# Poetry

For the most part, poetry is marked up the same way as other text.

Use Normal style for the content, and Heading styles for chapters, sections, and poem titles.

Poetry is an artistic medium, so we retain direct formatting such as: strong, emphasis, underline, and strikethrough.

Languages can be applied as needed. See the [Language](#) section for more info.



If you come across a poem that is an [epigraph](#), or styled as a blockquote in the original ebook, apply the Quote style. These usually appear at the beginning of chapters, or within non-poetry ebooks. When in doubt, [ask](#)!

## Complex Formatting and Producer's Notes

Sometimes you will come across a poem that has more complex formatting that cannot be translated to EPUB.

We cannot retain this formatting for EPUB conversion.



If you have any complex formatting that is not covered below, please ask in the [Q&A](#).

## Producer's Note

In these cases where we have removed complex formatting include a [Producer's Note](#) section at the beginning of the book.

### Producer's Note [Heading Style 1]

This book originally appeared with special paragraph and line spaces that added to the meaning of the text. Due to the conversion process these design elements have been removed. For poems that originally appeared with more complex formatting there are in-text producer's notes.



You can update the example above to reflect the formatting of the collection you are working on.

For more info, see the [Producer's Note](#) page.

## Common Types of Complex Formatting

The more common forms of complex formatting are:

- spacing,
- line justification,
- and concrete poetry.

In poetry the use of blank space on a page, between lines, words, or even letters, can be used to convey meaning. We do not retain blank spaces.

Lines, stanzas, or entire poems can use right justification to convey meaning. We do not retain right justification.

A concrete poem is a poem where the words create a shape on the page that conveys a visual meaning. We do not retain the original shape of a concrete poem.



If you have a concrete poem, simply keep the line break/word breaks as they originally appear with left justification.

### Example Original Poem:



### Example Transcribed Poem:

expresses its  
regret  
for the  
ramifications of former wrongs and its commitment to  
build on the positive relationships of the past and  
present to move toward a brighter future where all the  
people of this land live reconciled as brothers and  
sisters and harmoniously steward and protect  
the  
island together

## Images in Poems

Sometimes you will come across images of text in poems. This is a big no-no in publishing and not accessible. See the section on [Images of Text](#) for more info.

We transcribe all images of text and mark up with the appropriate NNELS styles.

Sometimes you will find the poet has used an image of a black bar to signify the censorship of a word or phrase. In this case you can keep the image and add the alt-text "Thick black bar blocking out word/phrase."

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