OPENED GROUND: SELECTED POEMS, 1966-1996

In "Digging", the first poem in Opened Ground, Heaney likens his pen to both spade and gun. With these metaphors in place, he makes clear his difficult poetic task: to delve into the past, both personal and historic, while remaining ever mindful of the potentially fatal power of language. Born and raised in Northern Ireland, where any hint of Gaelic tradition in one's speech was considered a political act, Heaney is...



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Opened Ground: Selected Poems, 1966-1996

Author	Seamus Heaney
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Peek Inside the Book

Which would be better, what sticks or what falls through? Or does the choice itself create the value? Seamus Heaney, Opened Ground: Selected Poems, 1966-1996

Reader's Opinions

Re-reading as homage. God, the hard-edged music of him! Lines you feel in your mouth like chewy, brackish bread. Interestingly, for me (and possibly for any of you who read my Recognitions...

Worth it for the poems from North alone. Scary good. Heaney is a masterful poet of ambivalence and ambiguity, two themes that he often reflects on as he navigates irish politics and attempts to reconcile the Ireland of old with modernity. I feel like I've discovered an honest to god treasure in this book. Beautiful beautiful poetry...