

# Dancing for England

74 collected poems



Melville Lovatt

Three Times Winner of *The Harrow Times* Poetry Competition

*Highly enjoyable and very memorable.*

Nick Horgan

## Author's Introductory Note

I never thought I would write poetry again, having stopped writing it, for personal reasons, almost fifty years ago.

The first poem in this collection, 'To Poetry', goes some way towards an explanation.

Although writing poetry in those early days became too claustrophobic, it helped me to develop a sense of timing and rhythm which I was able to carry forward into other genres, particularly playwriting and monologue writing.

To my own great surprise, 66 of these 74 poems were written from March 2020, the beginning of the Pandemic lockdown period. (The Collection includes '7 Covid-19 Diary Poems'.)

I lived the first 22 years of my life near Bolton, Lancashire, before moving to London to study playwriting and take advantage of the thriving Lunchtime Theatre Scene. Just before Supermarkets appeared, my parents ran a grocery shop which was very much the centre of the community.

Since writing poetry again, I've found myself journeying back in time.

Many of these poems spring from living in the north.

I hope I have succeeded in writing varied, accessible, sometimes funny poems which can also be enjoyed when read out loud.

*Melville Lovatt 2022.*

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