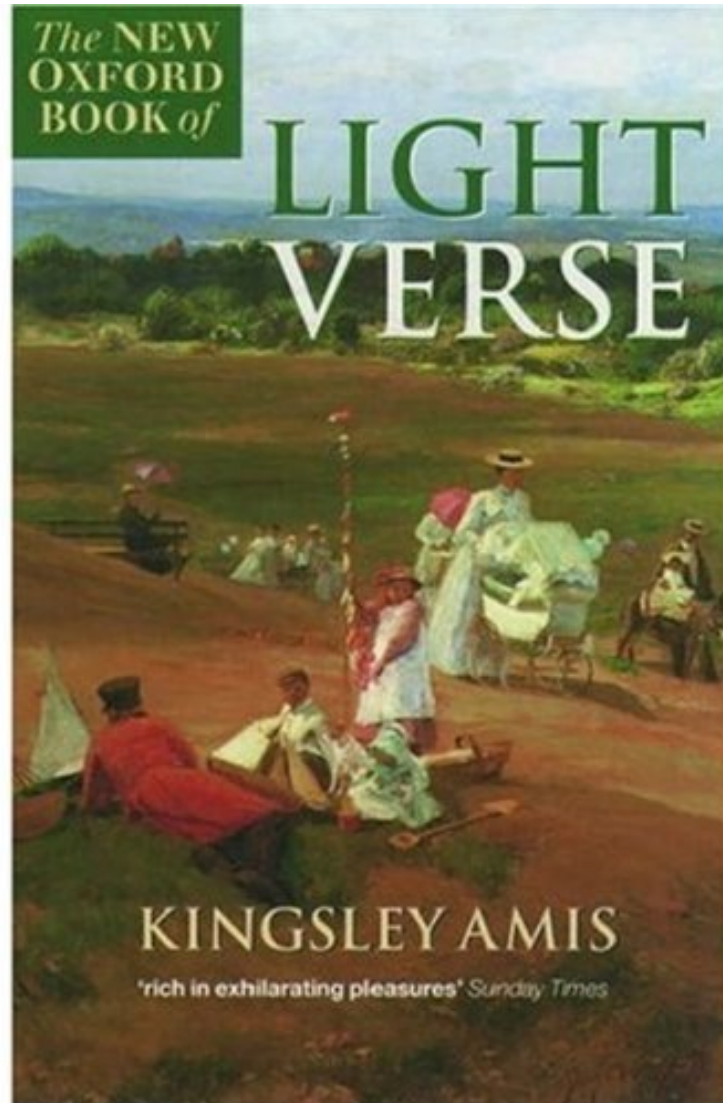


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The New Oxford Book of Light Verse (Oxford Books of Verse)

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From Oxford University Press : The New Oxford Book of Light Verse (Oxford Books of Verse) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New Oxford Book of Light Verse (Oxford Books of Verse):

This delightful anthology celebrates a rich and pleasing--if often underrated--tradition of English writing. The choice of poems reflects the great variety of light verse as well as the tastes and views of its distinguished editor. The

selections range from genial satire to nonsense verse, from epigrams to limericks. More than 250 poems by some 80 authors provide a witty and consistently entertaining survey of English verse from Rochester and Ben Jonson to Anthony Powell and Philip Larkin. As Mr. Amis explains in a lively introduction, the principles on which he based this selection differ from those used by W.H. Auden in selecting for *The Oxford Book of Light Verse* (first published in 1938). Auden's definition of "light" was closer to "popular" than "humorous." Amis's collection--which includes familiar favorites as well as previously unpublished masterpieces--is lighter in heart, closer to a modern understanding of the meaning of "light."

'rich in exhilarating pleasures' *Sunday Times* 'extremely funny and absorbing...a reflection, of course, of the sureness of Amis's taste' *Jeremy Treglown, Books and Bookmen* 'casts his net wide, scooping up some very funny fish indeed...more than 300 pages of sheer delight' *Sunday Telegraph* 'very comprehensive and enjoyable' *Gavin Ewart, Observer* 'Full of good stuff.' *James Fenton, New Statesman* 'The mixture he stirs, like a good pudding, has nourished many a good-natured smile from me.' *Peter Lewis, Daily Mail* About the Author About the Editor: Kingsley Amis is the author of 18 novels, including *Lucky Jim* and *The Old Devils*, which was awarded the 1986 Booker Prize, as well as numerous books of criticism and verse.