



Constance

Jane Kenyon

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Constance Details

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Author : Jane Kenyon

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From Reader Review Constance for online ebook

Jessica says

I love love love these poems.

Kit Frick says

OK THIS may rival my love for Marie Howe.

Safae says

“What hurt me so terribly all my life until this moment?”

<https://soundcloud.com/brainpicker/ha...>

HAVING IT OUT WITH MELANCHOLY

by Jane Kenyon

If many remedies are prescribed
for an illness, you may be certain
that the illness has no cure

FROM THE NURSERY

When I was born, you waited
behind a pile of linen in the nursery,
and when we were alone, you lay down
on top of me, pressing
the bile of desolation into every pore.
And from that day on
everything under the sun and moon
made me sad — even the yellow
wooden beads that slid and spun
along a spindle on my crib.
You taught me to exist without gratitude.
You ruined my manners toward God:
“We’re here simply to wait for death;
the pleasures of earth are overrated.”
I only appeared to belong to my mother,
to live among blocks and cotton undershirts
with snaps; among red tin lunch boxes
and report cards in ugly brown slipcases.
I was already yours — the anti-urge,
the mutilator of souls

Heather Mize says

3.5

Jimmy says

This is the third collection of Kenyon's work I have read in a row. I'm starting to sense a sameness of it all. That's not necessarily bad, it's just that I get it and want to move on.

Derek Emerson says

Kenyon's touch on dying and death are as insightful and moving as you would expect.

Janie says

by far my favorite book of Kenyon's. she put a lot on the line here, her language is at an all-time high. worth a quiet read

Edmund Davis-Quinn says

An absolutely beautiful work. Most especially her longer piece: "Having It Out with Melancholy."

I flew through it and may need to buy it. So tragic she died so young from leukemia.

Bryan says

Kenyan has long been one of favorite late 20th century poets. I never tire of her lucid and imaginative writing.

Jsavett1 says

These poems, like so many of Kenyon's, are absolutely amazing. "Having It Out With Melancholy" alone is worth the cost of purchase. That long-ish poem, for me, encapsulates everything Kenyon does well. Check it out.

Ashlie McDiarmid says

Kenyon's poetry is such a gift. Small, simpler verses that prick you awake. Anyone who loves poetry needs her words in the collection.

Rachel says

Moving poetry.

Kate says

oh, Jane.

Amy Kitchell-Leighty says

such a lovely voice and tone...soothing
