

# Constance



Poems by Jane Kenyon

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*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.

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### **Kit Frick says**

OK THIS may rival my love for Marie Howe.

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### **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

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**Heather Mize says**

3.5

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**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.

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**Derek Emerson says**

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

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**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

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**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.

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**Bryan says**

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

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**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.

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**Ashlie McDiarmid says**

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

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**Rachel says**

Moving poetry.

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**Kate says**

oh, Jane.

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**Amy Kitchell-Leighty says**

such a lovely voice and tone...soothing

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