

# Poetry in/for an inclusive EFL classroom

## Some interesting collections

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Obviously, none of the following collections can be reduced to a single theme, but they can provide helpful and inspiring starting points for addressing these themes in your teaching. Most of these works can in fact be read intersectionally. Class, for instance, is an additional key theme in several of these titles, including McMillan, Bernard, Robinson, and Sluman, and gender in particular also figures large. Many of these texts also lend themselves well for intertextual approaches, inviting comparisons with other texts students may have read (such as *Othello* or Shakespeare's sonnets).

All of these books contain at least some poems suitable for your students in terms of complexity (form, language, length, etc.), but we've indicated their relative level on a scale from one (very accessible) to three (quite challenging).

### Gender and sexuality

- Caroline Bird, *Rookie* (2022) \*/\*\*
- Ella Frears, *Shine, Darling* (2020) \*/\*\*
- Andrew McMillan, *Playtime* (2018) \*\*
- Padraig Regan, *Some Integrity* (2022) \*\*/\*\*
- Joelle Taylor, *C+nto & Othered Poems* (2021) \*\*

### Race, ethnicity, migration, linguistic diversity

- Aria Aber, *Hard Damage* (2019) \*\*
- Jason Allen-Paisant, *Self-Portrait as Othello* (2023) \*\*\*
- Jay Bernard, *Surge* (2019) \*\*
- Victoria Adukwei Bulley, *Quiet* (2022) \*\*\*
- Natalie Diaz, *Postcolonial Love Poem* (2020) \*\_\*\*\*
- Anthony Joseph, *Sonnets for Albert* (2022) \*\*
- Roger Robinson, *A Portable Paradise* (2019) \*

### Illness and disability

- Hannah Hodgson, *163 Days* (2022) \*
- Daniel Sluman, *Single Window* (2021) \*\*

### Class

- Caleb Femi, *Poor* (2020) \*\*\*
- Dawn Watson, *We Play Here* (2023) \*

### Religion

- Kaveh Akbar, *Pilgrim Bell* (2021) \*\*

Use reverse to write down additional titles suggested by fellow participants