



WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE

brian patten, benjamin zaphaniah, jan oskar hansen, ruth padel, alan brownjohn, peter knaggs, john kinsella

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The Rue Bella magazine was considered to be at the cutting edge of poetry during its production years between 1998 and 1993. Not only did it have some of the biggest names around (Benjamin Zephaniah, Brian Patten, Ruth Padel, Michael Horovitz, John Kinsella, Alan Brownjohn, Peter Knaggs, Ed Mycue, Jan Oskar Hansen and Virgil Suarez, all included here) but offered a stage for the most exciting up-and-coming talent of the period.

Here are some of the best pieces of the period, though we've managed to keep a few classics up our sleeve for a second volume if that seems appropriate.

'Keep up the good work. Literature needs more people like you.' John Martin, Black Sparrow Press

'The best presented publication on the small press market by far.' John Allan Hirst

'A maverick minded enterprise.' City Life

'May I, apropos of nothing, recommend the Rue Bella.' Roger McGough

'I do look forward to reading the Rue Bella.' Nicholas Royle, Time Out

'Some really good work.' Brian Patten

'This is happening now.' Martin Carr, 'The Boo Radleys'

So then, where were we?

Oh, that's right... after producing eight volumes of 'The Rue Bella' collections, as well as three volumes by individual poets, both of us Bird brothers were pulled under by the demands of growing families compounded by the fatigue that sets in once you've put some serious miles on the small press poetry clock. It's no exaggeration to say that things have changed enormously in the meantime in the world we left behind; where once there were hours spent building websites out of bits of twine and pritt-stick, and getting books published by printers who normally dealt with laminating curry-house menus because they were the cheapest - now there are all the benefits of a mature e-publishing world. No longer does visibility depend on the cash-strapped poetry buyers in the high street, and lugging boxes of books from the backdoor of the printer's is a thing of the past.

Yes, there is a nostalgia that inevitably goes along with recalling those days, but there's also a sense of jubilation about the possibilities that have now opened up, allowing not just ourselves to produce this first 'best of' collection without breaking our backs, but also to those thousands of younger folk out there who might want to start up their own press. There's really nothing stopping you - and if you're reading this, now,

wondering whether you should - then stop thinking and get doing. We may be a few years down the track and a few years none the wiser, but what time does allow you to appreciate is just how valuable certain endeavours really were in your younger days. For both of us The Rue Bella remains one of our proudest achievements - not just in the quality of the poetry (though it's gratifying to see just how much has, we think, stood the test of time so well), but because we simply did it and have the line of books on the shelves to prove it. Virtue, said Carols Williams, is in the effort. If Rue Bella were a piece of rock, those would be the words running all the way down the middle. We sincerely hope you think the effort was worth it.

The cover for this collection comes, as so often in our earlier volumes, from the lens of our dear friend Greg Piggott.

The passage of time was never required to appreciate either his talent or his warm embrace of life . Here's to you, sir.

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From reader reviews:

Steven Weathers:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the book untitled WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE can be great book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Doris Brown:

WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial pondering.

Sean Owens:

You could spend your free time to learn this book this reserve. This WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE is simple to create you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train in addition to soon. If you did not get much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy the e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Karen Ofarrell:

As a pupil exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or make summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's heart and soul or real their pastime. They just do what the educator want, like asked to go to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pics on there. Yeah, it is to get complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever you want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE can make you feel more interested to read.

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