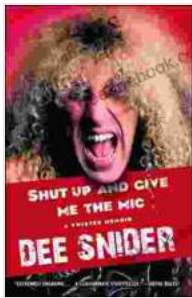


# Shut Up And Give Me The Mic: The Rise of Spoken Word Poetry in America

Spoken word poetry has become a powerful force in American culture, giving voice to marginalized communities and sparking important conversations. In this article, we will explore the history, impact, and future of spoken word poetry in the United States.



## Shut Up and Give Me the Mic by Dee Snider

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 39519 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 434 pages

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## The History of Spoken Word Poetry

Spoken word poetry has its roots in the oral traditions of many cultures around the world. In Africa, for example, griots have been performing spoken word for centuries, passing down stories and traditions from generation to generation. In the United States, spoken word poetry began to gain popularity in the 1960s, as part of the civil rights movement and the Black Arts Movement. Poets such as Amiri Baraka, Gil Scott-Heron, and Sonia Sanchez used spoken word to express their experiences of racism and oppression, and to call for social change.

In the 1980s, spoken word poetry began to move into mainstream culture. Slam poetry competitions, where poets perform their work in front of a live audience, became popular. These competitions gave poets a platform to share their work with a wider audience, and helped to raise the profile of spoken word poetry.

## **The Impact of Spoken Word Poetry**

Spoken word poetry has had a profound impact on American culture. It has given voice to marginalized communities, sparked important conversations, and inspired people to take action for social change. Spoken word poets have addressed issues such as racism, sexism, homophobia, and poverty. They have given voice to the experiences of people who are often ignored or silenced. Spoken word poetry has also been used to promote social change. Poets have used their words to raise awareness of important issues, and to call for action. Spoken word poetry has been used to organize protests, rallies, and other forms of activism.

## **The Future of Spoken Word Poetry**

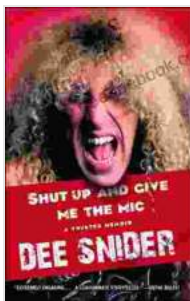
Spoken word poetry is a vibrant and growing art form. It is constantly evolving, and new poets are emerging all the time. Spoken word poetry is now being taught in schools and universities, and there are many organizations that support spoken word poets. The future of spoken word poetry is bright. It will continue to be a powerful force for change, and it will continue to give voice to the marginalized.

Spoken word poetry is a powerful and important art form. It has the ability to move people, to inspire change, and to build community. Spoken word poetry is a voice for the voiceless, and it is a force for good in the world.



## Further Reading

- A Brief History of Spoken Word Poetry
- The Library of Congress: Spoken Word Poetry
- Spoken Word Poetry as a Tool for Social Justice



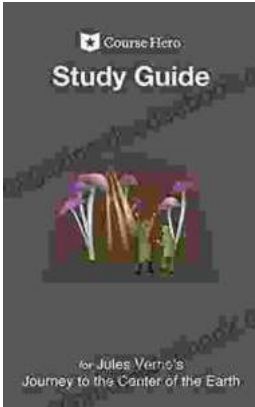
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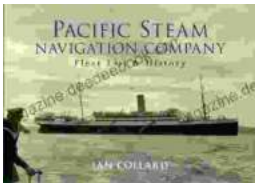
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