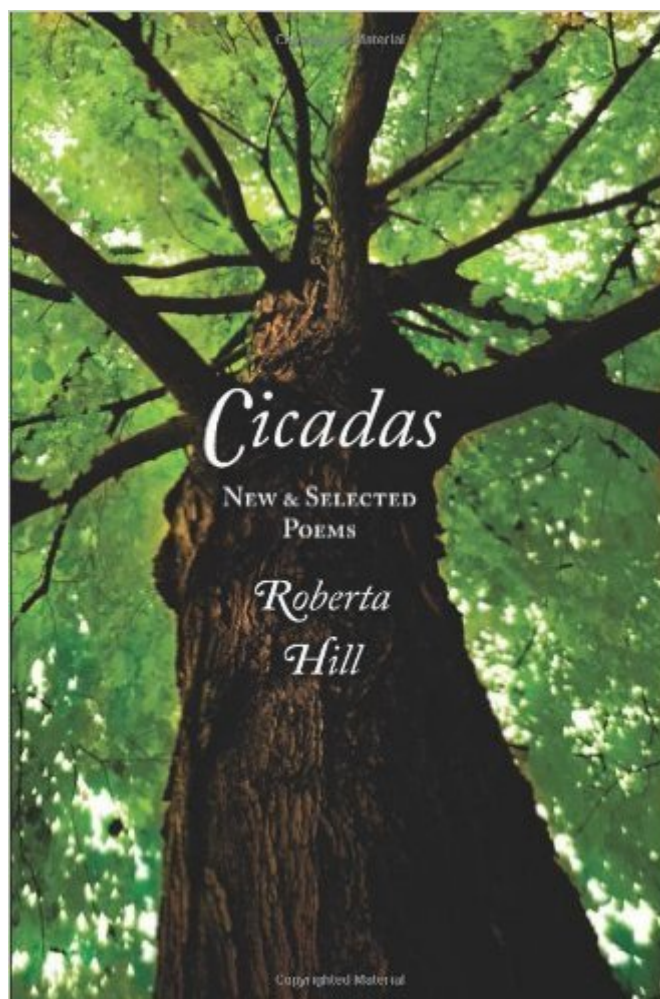


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# Cicadas: New & Selected Poems



## Synopsis

"Roberta Hill is a poet who understands struggle, and generously imparts her passion for renewal. Her work always stems from the toughness of a compassionate survivor."—Louise Erdrich  
*Cicadas: New & Selected Poems* gathers together seventy-five poems from Roberta Hill's two previous poetry collections, *Star Quilt* and *Philadelphia Flowers*, along with a generous selection of new poems, culled from the past thirty years. Roberta's poems are powerful lyrical expressions of love and respect for family, friends, fellow artists with a wide context for contemporary politics especially as protest against imperial governments, class conflicts, and racial injustice. Roberta's poems are always informed by her deep knowledge of native culture and respect for the earth and fellow humanity. You carried the cicada to the alder tree whose leafy shadow made the yard an arbor. After you left, his buzz song eased me through lonely afternoons of sun and wind. Desire changed his skeleton. Desire—that green shoot in a gut. That tendril twining with memory until new life emerges on the opposite side from where we first supposed. He lured his mate to the arbor. Even after you were gone, all the years you loved me still sounded. Roberta Hill is an enrolled member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. Her fiction, poetry, and essays have appeared in *The American Indian Culture and Research Journal*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Luna*, and *Prairie Schooner*. She has received a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund Award and a Chancellor's Award from the University of Wisconsin.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have picked up this book on and off, read a poem here, another one there, and used it for an assignment in my writing group. She has a lot to say and it's always pertinent.

Beautiful, unique poems that are like music.

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