

*All Along You Were Blooming: Thoughts for Boundless Living* by Morgan Harper Nichols

While I don't generally read much poetry, I have been trying to branch out and read some things outside of my comfort zone. This lovely collection of poems and art was a great place to start. I hadn't ever heard of Morgan Harper Nichols before, but the title of the book really jumped out at me. I enjoyed the art style Nichols uses, and she chose the most wonderful color palette, where everything is mellow and comforting. I also loved that there are handwritten poems interspersed with the typed poems. It's a really nice contrast. The words are light and airy, and perfectly match up with the art. The poems themselves are much easier to relate to than the poetry I remember reading for classes growing up. In particular, the poem on page 18 hit me right in the feels. The line "I am not a burden because I have burdens" is the kind of reminder I often need to hear. This is honestly a really great book of poetry for everyone, especially those who may not be poetry readers. It's the type of book to sit and read a little at a time, to be able to take in each of the inspiring messages that Nichols has so lovingly created.

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