



The Essential Anne Wilkinson

selected by Ingrid Ruthig

NOVEMBER

A selection from the work of this mid-20th century modernist poet that is often infused with a woman's perspective. Incisive and witty, with aspects of political satire, these poems still speak to us today.

Anne Wilkinson was a highly regarded, often anthologized poet who wrote and published in 1940s and 50s Toronto. She emerged from a time in which there were few Canadian poets—and even fewer who were women. She was highly regarded by her modernist peers and contributed greatly to the writing community, as a poet, as the author of two books of prose and as the founding editor of *The Tamarack Review*. Yet Wilkinson saw herself as an outsider. Her work reflects an attempt to come to terms with the restrictive world within which she was born, and to deal with the expectations of class and gender that were placed upon her by family and by society.

In treeless fields, row on row
Burgeons the ranch-style bungalow.
Thermapane the windows yawn
On unexecutive underpants
Waving amputations at
Nylons in a neighbour's lot.

—from 'Notes on Suburbia'

Ingrid Ruthig is a writer, editor, artist and former architect whose books include *Slipstream* and *Richard Outram: Essays on His Works*. Her writing has appeared across Canada and internationally. Her award-winning artwork fusing text and image is held in private collections and has been featured in numerous art galleries and festivals. Ruthig lives near Toronto with her family.

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