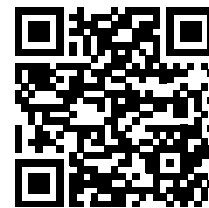


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The Roots of American Poetry



Early American poetry, a reflection of the _____ it was born from, serves as a window into the lives and emotions of its people. Poets like Anne _____ and Phillis _____ broke new ground, not just in American literature, but in the very fabric of the nation's culture. Bradstreet, often hailed as the first published American poet, wrote deeply personal poems that explored themes of family, faith, and the experience of life in a new _____. Her work, "The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America," was a monumental achievement for its time. Wheatley, on the other hand, was a pioneering African American poet who wrote about freedom, equality, and her faith, challenging the prevailing attitudes of her era. Her poetry, filled with classical references and a fight for _____, made her the first African American and second American woman to publish a book of poems. These poets used their _____ to express not only personal feelings but also to comment on the society around them, including its injustices and _____. They laid the groundwork for a rich tradition of American poetry that would include future voices like Emily _____ and Walt _____, who would each redefine American poetry in their own ways. Dickinson's brief, yet profound, poems delved into the nature of life, death, and _____, while Whitman celebrated democracy, individuality, and the human spirit in his sprawling free verse. The early American poets, through their pioneering efforts and unique perspectives, helped to shape an emerging _____ identity, proving that poetry was not just an art form but a vital part of the American consciousness. Their legacy is a testament to the power of poetry to capture the essence of human experience, reflecting the hopes, fears, and dreams of a nation in its infancy.

Bradstreet

Dickinson

society

beauties

words

identity

world

Whitman

Wheatley

cultural

dignity