



## Shadow Box: Poems.

By Chappell, Fred.

Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge and London, 2009. Softcover. Condition: New. First Edition.. 96 pages. Softcover. New book. POETRY. In this sharply innovative collection, renowned poet Fred Chappell layers words and images to create a new and dramatic poetic form—the poem-within-a-poem. Like the shadow box in the volume's title, each piece consists of an inner world contained, framed, supported by an outer—the two interdependent, sometimes supplementary, often contrary. For example, the grim but gorgeous "The Caretakers" is a landscape that reveals another image inside it. Chappell also introduces sonnets in which the sestet nests within the octet. Play serves as an important component, but the poems do not depend upon gamesmanship or verbal strategems. Instead, they delicately or wittily trace human feelings, respond somberly to the news of the world, and rejoice in humankind's plentiful variety of attitudes and beliefs. Just as an x-ray can show the inner structure of a physical object, so the techniques in Shadow Box display the internal energies of the separate works. With this new form—the "enclosed" or "embedded" or "inlaid" poem—Chappell broadens the expressive possibilities of formal poetry, intrigues the imagination in an entirely new way, and offers surprise and revelation in sudden...



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### Reviews

*This publication may be really worth a go through, and a lot better than other. It really is written in simple terms and never difficult to understand. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.*

-- **Natalie Abbott**

*This book will not be simple to get going on reading but extremely exciting to read through. Yes, it can be play, still an interesting and amazing literature. I am very easily could possibly get a delight of reading a written book.*

-- **Rene Olson**