



# Take the Mic: The Art of Performance Poetry, Slam, and the Spoken Word (A Poetry Speaks Experience)

*Marc Kelly Smith, Joe Kraynak*

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## Get on Stage and Perfect Your Performance

*Have you ever enjoyed a slam or two and thought, "I could do this," but felt apprehensive staring at that empty mic—or worse, you climbed up on stage and struggled?*

Let **Marc Kelly Smith**, the **founder of Slam Poetry**, teach you everything you need to be a confident performer, from writing a powerful poem, to stage techniques, to going on tour (if that's where your muse leads you).

*Take the Mic* is filled with insider tips, backstage advice, and tons of examples of slam poems that wake up an audience. With this book, you'll also be able to link to the PoetrySpeaks.com community to listen to samples, meet poets, and unearth inspirations for your next performance.

## The Ultimate Guide to Writing and Performing with Power

*Take the Mic* is an essential guide for lifting your poetry from the page to the stage. Marc Kelly Smith (*So What!*), grand founder of the Slam movement, serves as your personal coach, showing you how to craft stage-worthy verse and deliver a poetry performance that shakes the rafters and sparks thunderous applause. In *Take the Mic*, you discover how to...

- Pen poetry that's conducive to on-stage performance
- Overcome stage fright
- Practice powerful performance techniques
- Rehearse like a pro
- Shape a loose collection of poems into a killer set
- Connect with your audience — heart and soul
- Master the art of self-promotion
- Schedule your own slam poetry tour
- Transform your hobby into paying gigs
- Act professional to establish a solid reputation in the Slam community

*Take the Mic* is packed with practical exercises you can do alone or in class to hone your skills and transform your body, mind, voice, verse, and spirit into an engaging stage presence.

You'll also find a brief history of slam, the rules and regulations that govern official slam competitions, and a list of PSI (Poetry Slam, Inc.) Certified Slams, so no matter where you are, you always have a place to *Take the Mic!*

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