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POETRY

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THE  
GREAT  
POETS

# William McGonagall

Read by **Gregor Fisher**

For over a hundred years, William McGonagall (1830–1902) has been almost universally recognised as the worst poet in English. Utterly convinced of his genius, he remained untroubled by any worrisome self-doubt, despite the mockery of his audiences.

This collection brings together some of his best-known works (*The Tay Bridge Disaster*, *The Battle of Tel-el-Kebir*), some lesser-known gems (*Beecham's Pills*, *The Faithful Dog Fido*), and some autobiographical writings that tell of his ill-fated trip to Balmoral, of his much-fêted performance as *Macbeth* (in which he was so popular he decided not to die), and why publicans threw peas at him.



**Gregor Fisher** has appeared in eight series of *Rab C Nesbitt*, and dramas such as *Blood Red Roses* and *The Tales of Para Handy*. He played the role of 'Perks' in Carlton's 2000 production of *The Railway Children* and 'Mr Bumble' in BBC TV's adaptation of *Oliver Twist*. His theatre credits include *As You Like It* and *The Cherry Orchard*. He has also played 'Grandpa Potts' in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and 'The Cowardly Lion' in *The Wizard of Oz*. His film credits include *1984* and *Love Actually*.

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