



Walt Whitman

Born on May 31, 1819, on Long Island, New York, Walt Whitman worked as a teacher and a journalist before becoming a poet. His poetry related to people of all backgrounds and made him one of America's most well-known and beloved writers.

During Whitman's time, the United States of America was divided by slavery, which threatened to split the country in two. The Civil War inspired him to write *Drum Taps*, poetry about the war and his experiences as a battlefield nurse. His writing was powerful; even President Lincoln admired him. In fact, one of his poems, "O Captain, My Captain," is a patriotic tribute to President Lincoln.

Whitman also wrote poems about nature. Whitman died in 1892. However, his poetry and free-verse style, along with his conversational tone, remain appreciated and admired.