

# John in the Company of Poets: The Gospel in Literary Imagination (Studies in Christianity and Literature)

Thomas Gardner



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Thomas Gardner artistically describes Jesus -- "the Word made flesh" -- as a poem penned by God for the world, and John -- author of the Fourth Gospel -- as the poem's interpreter. John's structural patterns, repetitions, and narrative interventions invite readers to experience for themselves the beauty of the divine poem. *John in the Company of Poets* deepens this invitation by re-imagining the biblical text through the eyes of such artists as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Wendell Berry, and T. S. Eliot, offering a literary reading of the Gospel based upon their powerful poetic replies. Poets are our best readers, contends Gardner, and his deft analysis forges a fresh path into the issues and tensions of John's Gospel.

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