



e.e. cummings

e.e. cummings was an American poet, painter, essayist, author, and playwright. He wrote approximately 2,900 poems, two autobiographical novels, four plays, and several essays. He was born October 14, 1894 and died September 3, 1962,



Emily Dickinson

Emily Dickinson was born on December 10, 1830, in Amherst, Massachusetts. She attended Mount Holyoke Female Seminary in South Hadley, but only for one year. While Dickinson was extremely prolific as a poet and regularly enclosed poems in letters to friends, she was not publicly recognized during her lifetime. Upon her death in 1886, Dickinson's family discovered forty handbound volumes of nearly 1,800

poems. The first volume of her work was published posthumously in 1890 and the last in 1955.



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Lateef McLeod is building his career as a scholar and an author. He has earned a BA in English from UC Berkeley and a MFA in Creative Writing from Mills College. He is now a student in the Anthropology and Social Change Doctoral program at California Institute for Integral Studies in San Francisco. He published his first poetry book entitled *A Declaration Of A Body Of Love* in 2010 chronicling his life as a black man with a disability and tackling various topics on family, dating, religion, spirituality, his national heritage and sexuality. He currently is writing a novel tentatively entitled *The Third Eye Is Crying*. He was in the 2007 annual theater performance of *Sins Invalid* and also their artist-in-residence performance in 2011 entitled *Residence Alien*. He currently completing another poetry book entitled *Whispers of Krip Love, Shouts of Krip Revolution*. Some of his recent community service work includes being the co-chair of the Persons with Disabilities Ministry at Allen Temple Baptist Church and being the chair of the Lead committee and executive board member of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.



Lynn Manning was an American playwright, poet and actor known for his autobiographical work that explores the complexities of life as a blind African-American man. Lynn Manning's life was turned upside down when he was left blind after being shot in the face in a [Hollywood](#) bar in 1978, when he

was 23 years old.<sup>[1]</sup> He made a name for himself as a playwright and actor. He is best known for his semi-autobiographical work *Weights*, which premiered in Los Angeles in 2001. The play won three [NAACP Theatre Awards](#) including Best Actor for Manning and has since been performed throughout the country, including at the Theater By The Blind in [New York City](#). Manning's last play, *Up From The Downs* had its world premiere at the Los Angeles Design Center on May 7, 2005.