



10-1-2013

# Bountiful Harvest: Essays in Honor of S. Kent Brown

Andrew C. Skinner

Carl W. Griffin

David J. Larsen

D Morgan Davis

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq>

## Recommended Citation

Skinner, Andrew C.; Griffin, Carl W.; Larsen, David J.; and Davis, D Morgan (2013) "Bountiful Harvest: Essays in Honor of S. Kent Brown," *BYU Studies Quarterly*: Vol. 52 : Iss. 3 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq/vol52/iss3/19>

This Notice is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *BYU Studies Quarterly* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

body of excellent work. Poets Lance Larson, Neil Aitken, and Timothy Liu are among many poets in the anthology who have garnered substantial attention in the wider literary world. *Fire in the Pasture* also includes the work of many up-and-coming new poets, as well as writers who are best known in Mormon literary circles.

Although the readership of poetry anthologies is not large, it is encouraging that *Fire in the Pasture* collects and preserves many of Mormonism's most potent poetic voices from the early twenty-first century, making them available for generations to come. This volume would also be a quality addition to any literature class, Mormon or otherwise, especially at LDS schools. Although not all the poems in the anthology have overtly Mormon elements, many address ideas and issues at the core of our theology and culture. For those who erroneously believe that LDS poetry is primarily comprised of sentimental rhymed verses or charming couplets, this anthology is proof that the complexity and beauty of Mormon life can, and should, be rendered in powerful, sophisticated poetic expression.

—Angela Hallstrom

*Bountiful Harvest: Essays in Honor of S. Kent Brown*, edited by Andrew C. Skinner, D. Morgan Davis, and Carl Griffin (Provo, Utah: Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship, 2011).

*Bountiful Harvest* is a collection of essays written and assembled in honor of S. Kent Brown, recently retired professor of ancient scripture and Near Eastern studies at Brigham Young University. An impressive array of colleagues, former students, teachers, admirers, and friends of Professor Brown have contributed to this handsome volume, resulting in twenty-one essays that are

a worthy tribute to Brown's legacy. The volume includes an introduction by the editors in well-deserved praise of Brown's career and significant achievements, and also an appendix listing his many published works.

As the list of his writings attests, S. Kent Brown is recognized for the breadth of his interests and the diversity of his expertise, and as the editors put it, these essays "are something of a capsulized summary of his career and interests" (xi). The topics covered include canonical and extracanonical texts; studies on Old and New Testament subjects; Mormon studies; Egyptian, Jewish, Islamic, early Christian, and Coptic studies; theological treatises; the Book of Mormon and Pearl of Great Price; the Dead Sea Scrolls; linguistic analyses; and archaeological findings.

The diversity of topics covered, combined with the high quality of academic scrutiny displayed, exemplifies an important aspect of LDS scholarship that should be cherished and preserved. As the academy continues to follow the trend of increasing specialization and compartmentalization, LDS scholars do well to follow Brown's lead and engage in the type of intertextual and interdisciplinary studies that have proved to be of great value to the Latter-day Saint community.

*Bountiful Harvest* presents something of interest for almost all readers. Although most essays are written for an LDS audience, many will be of interest to a broader body of readers as well, including scholars in the various disciplines covered and also interested laypersons. The volume includes, for example, an article by Jacob Neusner, a renowned scholar of Jewish studies who is not LDS but whose work will be of interest to the Mormon community. Many will profit from the knowledge shared in this book, just as many have benefitted from the scholarship of the man whom it honors.

—David J. Larsen