This summer, I have found a brilliant candidate &quoth;John Burnside's I Put a Spell on You. The title proves uncannily true. A week since I finished reading it, I am still spellbound. There is a beautiful border country between poetry and prose, and increasingly it's the bandits in this border country whose books bring me up short: Kathleen Jamie, Andrew Greig and John Burnside are all poets (and Scottish). Rebecca Solnit’s The Faraway Nearby was my book of the summer of 2013. All of them construct books with no obvious narrative pull, no beginnings or ends; but with digressions, memoir and reflection all sitting alongside each other. Here are the many responses from John Burnside, Robert Crawford, Douglas Dunn, Alasdair Gray, W N Herbert, Kathleen Jamie, Jackie Kay, David Kinloch, Tom Leonard, Liz Lochhead, Don Paterson and Robin Robertson. With titles from "Own Goal" to "Maw Broon Goes for Colonic Irrigation", the poems are in turn daft, uproarious and tenderly lyrical, rejoicing in the canny and uncanny possibilities of the Scots and English tongues. About the Author.Â Four of his collections have been Poetry Book Society Recommendations and he has won two Scottish Arts Council Book Awards. With Simon Armitage he edited The Penguin Book of Poetry from Britain and Ireland since 1945 (1998) and with Mick Imlah The New Penguin Book of Scottish Verse (2000). In Scotland's Books poet Robert Crawford tells the story of Scottish writing and its relationship to the country's history. Stretching from the medieval masterpiece of St Columba's Iona - the earliest surviving Scottish work - to the imaginative, thriving world of twenty-first-century writing with authors such as Ali Smith and James Kelman, this outstanding collection traces the development of literature in Scotland and explores the cultural, linguistic and literary heritage of the nation.Â Robert Crawford was born in Lanarkshire in 1959 and educated at the universities of Glasgow and Oxford. He is Professor of Modern Scottish Literature at the University of St Andrews and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. His Selected Poems was Scottish poets now in their 30's and 40's -- John Burnside, Robert Crawford, Carol Ann Duffy, Kathleen Jamie, Don Paterson, Robin Robertson -- are gathering the wider readership that Norman MacCaig and Iain Crichton Smith and George Mackay Brown deserved but never dreamed of. Likewise the novelists -- Irvine Welsh, James Kelman, Janice Galloway, Alan Warner, Alasdair Gray and Duncan McLean -- are finding broader audiences around the world. John Burnside, Robert Crawford, Douglas Dunn, Kathleen Jamie, Edwin Morgan, Kenneth White and others, together with such noted experimentalists as Frank Kuppner, Tom Leonard and Richard Price, explore questions about the relationship between social, economic and ecological realities and their poetic transformation.Â ZAlerts allow you to be notified by email about the availability of new books according to your search query. A search query can be a title of the book, a name of the author, ISBN or anything else. Read more about ZAlerts. Author / ISBN / Topic / Any search query. Create. Post a Review. You can write a book review and share your experiences. Other readers will always be interested in your opinion of the books you've read.