INTRODUCTORY NOTES
This list is the amplified and corrected version of the first part of "A Study of W.H. Auden's Textual Revision of the Poems Included in Poems (1933) and Look, Stranger! (1936)" published in the Annual Report, vol. XXXIV(1974), of the Faculty of Education, University of Iwate. The previous list was found very unsatisfactory in failing to give a whole line in which a variant reading occurs, and also in involving fifteen careless omissions.

The first line of each poem given at the head of the variant list is from Poems (1930), and, in the cases of the poems first included in Poems (1933), from this second edition.

The abbreviations given in square brackets under the first lines are as follows (and only the numerals are used, to show the publication date of each version, after a line or a variant reading):

P 28 = Poems (Private edition by S.H.S., 1928)
P 30 = Poems (Faber & Faber, 1930)
P 33 = Poems (second edition; Faber & Faber, 1933)
SP 38 = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1938)
SP 40 = Some Poems (Faber & Faber, 1940)
CP 45 = Collected Poetry (Random House, 1945)
CSP 50 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1930–1944 (Faber & Faber, 1950)
SP 58 = W. H. Auden: A Selection by the Author (Penguin Books, 1958)
SP 59 = Selected Poetry of W. H. Auden (Random House, 1959)
CSP 66 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1927–1957 (Faber & Faber, 1966)
SP 68 = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1968)
CP 76 = Collected Poems (Random House/Faber & Faber, 1976)
CP 78 = Collected poems (second printing, 1978)

In the list, every line involving a verbal change is asterisked. Where the change is in punctuation or in spelling, a whole line is quoted from the text, and the variant reading is given in round brackets after or under the line.

I would like to express my deepest thanks to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University for his kind help in all forms.
I: Will you turn a deaf ear
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'The Questioner Who Sits So Sly'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
5 Of stork-legged heaven-reachers 30-78. (heaven-reachers, 66-78.)
6 Of the compulsory touchers 30-78. (touchers, 66-78.)
7-8 The sensitive amusers/And masked amazers? 30-78. (amusers, 66-78.)
9-10 Yet wear no ruffian badge/Nor lie behind the hedge 30-78.
   (badge, 66-78.   hedge, 66-78.)
13-14 Carry no talisman/For germ or the abrupt pain 30-78. (pain, 66-78.)
15-16 Needing no concrete shelter/Nor porcelain filter. 30-78. (filter? 45-78.)
21 *For to be held for friend 30-50: For to be held as friend 66-78.
22 By an undeveloped mind 30-78. (mind, 66-78.)
25-26 Whose anecdotes betray/His favourite colour as blue 30-78. (blue, 66-78.)
33-34 To accept the cushions from/Women against martyrdom. 30-78.
   (cusions 30, 33:    martyrdom, 66-78.)
37-38 Never to make signs/Fear neither maelstrom nor zones 30-78.
   (signs, 66-78.   zones, 66-78.)
45-46 But to see brave sent home/Hermetically sealed with shame 30-78.
   (shame, 66-78.)

II: Which of you waking early and watching daybreak
[P 30]

III: Since you are going to begin to-day
[P 30; P 33; SP 38; CP 45, 'Venus Will Now Say a Few Words'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
1 30-78. (today 45:)
8 Relax in your darling's arms like a stone 30-78. (stone, 66-78.)
20/21 (stanza break) 30-50; 76/78. (no stanza break) 66:

IV: Watch any day his nonchalant pauses, see
[P 30; P 33; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'We All Make Mistakes'; CSP 50, 'A Free One'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
4 'There is a free one' many say, but err. 30-78. (one,' 45-78.)
7 But poised between shocking falls on razor-edge 30-78. (falls, 78.)
9 *Of the accosting profile, the erect carriage. 30-50:
    Of an accosting profile, an erect carriage. 66-78.
10-11 The song, the varied action of the blood/Would drown the warning from the iron
   wood 30-78. (blood, 66-78.   wood, 66-78.)
14 *The longest way to the intrinsic peace, 30-50:
The longest way to an intrinsic peace, 66-78.

V: From the very first coming down

[P 28, XI; P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'The Love Letter'; CSP50; SP 58/59, 'The Letter'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
3 Because of the sun and a lost way, 28-78. (a lost way 28: a lost-way, 58/59:)
4 *You certainly remain: to-day 28-33; 58-78. (remain. To-day 28:)
   You certainly remained: today 45, 50: (to-day 50:)
9 And love's worn circuit re-begun, 28-78. (rebegun 28:)
11-13 *as we have seen/The swallow on the tile, spring's green/Preliminary shiver,
   (on the tiles, Spring's 28:) 28-78.
14-15 A solitary truck, the last/Of shunting in the Autumn. But now 28-78.
   (in the Autumn; but now, 28: in the Autumn. But now, 58-78.)
17 Thought warmed to evening through and through 28-78. (and through, 58/59; 76/78.)
18 Your letter comes, speaking as you, 28-78. (as you 28:)
20 Nor speech is close nor fingers numb. 28-78. (close, 28: numb 28; 59/58:)
21-22 If love not seldom has received/An unjust answer, was deceived. 28-78.
   (deceived; 28:)
23 I, decent with the seasons, move 28-78. (move, 58/59:)
26 The stone smile of this country god 28-78. (*God 28:)

VI: To have found a place for nowhere
[P 30]

VII: Upon this line between adventure
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'Do Be Careful'; CSP 50, 'Between Adventure'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
4-6 Calling of each other by name/Smiling, taking a willing arm/Has the companionsship
   of a game. 30-78. (name, 66-78. arm, 66-78.)
8 Out of bravado or drunkenness 30-78. (drunkenness, 66-78.)
10-11 On neither side let foot slip over/Invading Always, exploring Never, 30-78.
   (over, 66-78.)

VIII: Again in conversations
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'Two's Company': CSP 50, 'Never Stronger'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
7 *Than peace-time occupations. 30:
   Than boys' imaginations. 33-78.
8-10 For every news/Means pairing off in twos and twos/Another I, another You
   (and twos, 50-78. You, 50-78.) 30-78.
13-14 Never stronger/But younger and younger 30-78. (and younger, 50-78.)
15–16 Saying goodbye but coming back, for fear/is over there 30–78.
   (good–bye 45–78. there, 66–78.)

IX: The crowing of the cock
[P 30]

X: Love by ambition
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘Too Dear, Too Vague’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
4–6 And cannot go/From yes to no/For no is not love, no is no 30–78.
   (to no, 66–78. love; 45–78. no is no, 66–78.)
7–8 The shutting of a door/The tightening jaw 30–78. (door, 66–78. jaw, 66–78.)
9 *A conscious sorrow, 30–50: (sorrow; 45, 50:)
   A wilful sorrow; 66–78.
10–11 And saying yes/Turns love into success 30–78. (success, 45–78.)
12–13 Views from the rail/Of land and happiness, 30–78. (happiness; 66–78.)
14–15 Assured of all/The sofas creak 30–78. (all, 66–78. creak, 66–78.)
19–20 Voices explain/Love’s pleasure and love’s pain 30–78. (pain, 45–78.)
21–22 Still tap the knee/And cannot disagree 30–78. (disagree, 45–78.)
23–24 Hushed for aggression/Of full confession 30–78. (confession, 45–78.)
27–28 Love is not there/Love has moved to another chair. 30–78.
   (there, 66–78. chair, 66–78.)
28/29 (stanza break) 30: (?) 33: (no stanza break) 45–78.
29–30 *Aware already/Of who stands next 30–50:
   Aware already/Of what stands next, 66–78.
31–32 And is not vexed/And is not giddy 30–78. (vexed, 66–78. giddy, 45–78.)
33–34 Leaves the North in place/With a good grace 30–78. (grace, 66–78.)
35–36 And would not gather/Another to another 30–78. (another, 45–78.)

XI: Who stands, the crux left of the watershed,
[P 28; P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘The Watershed’; CSP 50; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76/78]
4 *Snatches of tramline running to the wood, 28–50:
   Snatches of tramline running to a wood, 66–78.
9 Its latter office, grudgingly performed, 28–78. (performed. 28; 66–78.)
10–11 And further here and there, though many dead/Lie under the poor soil, 28–78.
   (And, further, 66–78.)
11–12 some acts are chosen/Taken from recent winters; 28–78.
   (chosen, 28; 76/78. winters. 28:)
12–13 two there were/Cleaned out a damaged shaft by hand, 28–78.
   (Two there were, 28:)
13–14 *clutching/The winch the gale would tear them from; 28–78. (a gale 66–78.)
W.H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (X)

16 *Not at his village: in his wooden shape 28:
   Not at his village, but in wooden shape 30-78.
17 Through long abandoned levels nosed his way 28-78. (his way, 28:)
18 *And in his final valley went to ground. 28-78. (And in a final valley 28:)
19 Go home, now, stranger, proud of your young stock, 28-78.
   (Go home now, 28: stock 28:)
20 Stranger, turn back again, frustrate and vexed: 28-78. (vexed. 28:)
25-26 you may hear the wind/Arriving driven from the ignorant sea 28-78.
   (Arriving, 28:)
28 Where sap unabaffled rises, being spring; 28-78. (being spring. 28:)

XII: We made all possible preparations,
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'Let History Be My Judge'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
11 Even some sort of attempt at rising 30-78. (rising, 66-78.)
20-21 Many would find the cause//In a not uncommon form of terror; 30-78.
   (cause. 33-50:)

XIII: Bones wrenched, weak whimper, lids wrinkled, first dazzle known,
[P 30]

XIV: Sentries against inner and outer,
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘Shut Your Eyes and Open Your Mouth’; CSP 50]
(No alteration between the four versions.)

XV: Control of the passes was, he saw, the key
[P 28, XV; P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘The Secret Agent’; CSP 50; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76/78]
1 28-78. (the Passes 28:)
4 *For a bogus guide, seduced with the old tricks. 28-50:
   For a bogus guide, seduced by the old tricks. 66-78.
6-7 had they pushed the rail/Some stations nearer. They ignored his wires. 28-78.
   (nearer; they 28: wires: 66-78.)
10 For weeks up in the desert. Woken by water 28-78. (desert; woken 28:)
13 Dreamed of already. They would shoot, of course, 28-78. (shoot of course, 28:)
14 *Parting easily who were never joined. 28-50:
   Parting easily two that were never joined 66-78.

XVI: It was Easter as I walked in the public gardens
[P 30; P 33; SP 40; CP 45, ‘1929’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
1 30-78. (gardens, 66-78.)
Helpless and ugly as an embryo chicken. Helpless and ugly as an embryo chicken (chicken.

Who sorry in this time look only back. Who sorry in this time look only back (Who,

Nor restlessness of intercepted growth. Nor restlessness of intercepted growth. (*restless 76:)

In his day-thinking and in his night-thinking. In his day-thinking and in his night-thinking (night-thinking,

Alone in flesh, himself no friend. Alone in flesh, himself no friend. (friend. 78.)

*He say 'We must forgive and forget,' He says, 'We must forgive and forget,' 45-76:

He says, "We must forgive and forget," 78.

And his ancestral property in Wales. And his ancestral property in Wales. (Wales. 33-76:)

*Yet sometimes man look and say good Yet sometimes man look and say good 30-40:

Yet sometimes men look and say good 45-78.

At strict beauty of locomotive. At strict beauty of locomotive. (*A strict beauty 50:)

And field and distance was in me for peace. And field and distance was in me for peace, 30-78. (peace 50-76:)

'Cannot,' I said, 'being no child now nor a bird.' 30-78. (a bird. 30:)

But taking the first steps falters, is vexed But taking the first steps falters, is vexed 30-78. (vexed, 33-78.)

*By opposite strivings for entropic peace, *By opposite strivings for entropic peace,

Retreat to lost home or advance to new, 30. (cut) 33-78.

*And as foreign settlers to strange county come, *And as foreign settlers to strange county come, 30, 33:

And as foreign settlers to strange country come, 45-78.

*And by intermarriage create a new race/And by intermarriage create a new race/And a new language, 30-50:

And intermarriage create a new race, A new language, 66-78.

see autumn come/Focussing stars more sharply in the sky, 30-78.

(Focusing 50-78.)

This is the account of growing, of knowing; This is the account of growing, of knowing;

First difference from first innocence First difference from first innocence

Is feeling cold and nothing there, Is feeling cold and nothing there,

Continual weeping and oversleeping, Continual weeping and oversleeping,

Is mocking, nudging, and defence of fear; Is mocking, nudging, and defence of fear;

Verbal fumbling and muscle mumbling, Verbal fumbling and muscle mumbling,

Imagination by mispronunciation. Imagination by mispronunciation.

Sebaceous belly, swollen skull, Sebaceous belly, swollen skull,

Exchanging hats and calling dear Exchanging hats and calling dear

Are rich and silly, poor and dull. Are rich and silly, poor and dull.

(Ten lines, the second stanza of Section 4, cut.) 33-78.

The falling leaves know it, The falling leaves know it, 30-45; 76/78. (no stanza break) 66:

The falling children know it, 50, 66:

the children,/At play on the fuming alkali tip/Or by the flooded football ground, the children,/At play on the fuming alkali tip/Or by the flooded football ground, know it— 30-78. (ground 50-76.)
27-28 *to enforce/Conformity with the orthodox bone, 30-50:
enforce/Conformity with the orthodox bone. 66-78.

29 With organized fear, the articulated skeleton. 30-50.
(the last line of the third stanza, cut) 66-78.

30-35 *For this is how it ends,
The account of growing, the history of knowing,
As more comatose and always in,
Living together in wretched weather
In a doorless room in a leaking house,
Wrong friends at the wrong time. 30.
(Six lines, the whole fourth stanza, cut.) 33-78.

38-39 *We know it, we know that love/Needs 30-50:
We know it, know that love/Needs 66-78.

XVII: This lunar beauty
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘Pur’; CSP 50, ‘Like a Dream’; SP 58/59, ‘This Lunar Beauty’;
CSP 66; CP 76/78]

2 Has no history 30-78. (history, 45-78.)
4-5 If beauty later/Bear any feature 30-78. (feature, 45, 50; 66-76:)
8-9 This like a dream/Keeps other time 30-78. (time, 45-78.)
13-15 And the heart’s changes/Where ghost has haunted/Lost and wanted. 30-78.
(changes, 45, 50; 66, 76: haunted, 45; 58/59; 78.)
18 Nor finished this, 30-78. (Nor, 45-78.)
21-22 Love shall not near/The sweetness here 30-78. (here, 45, 50; 66, 76:)

XVIII: Before this loved one
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, ‘This One’; CSP 50; SP 58/59; CSP 66, ‘This Loved One’; CP 76/78]

2 Was that one and that one 30-78. (and that one, 66-78.)
3-5 A family/And history/And ghost’s adversity 30-78. (adversity, 66-78.)
10-11 Frontiers to cross/As clothes grew worse 30-78. (worse, 66-78.)
12-13 And coins to pass/in a cheaper house 30-78. (house, 66-78.)
16-17 *Face that the sun/Is supple on 30-59:
Face that the sun/Is lively on 66-78.
20-21 This gratitude for gifts is less/Than the old loss; 30-78. (loss, 66-78.)
22-23 *Touching is shaking hands/On mortgaged lands; 30-59:
Touching a shaking hands/On mortgaged lands, 66-78.
25-27 This gracious greeting/‘Good day. Good luck’/Is no real meeting 30-78.
(greeting, 66-78. luck’. 66-78. meeting, 66-78.)
28-29 But instinctive look/A backward love. 30-78. (look, 66-78.)
XIX: The silly fool, the silly fool

[P 30; P 33; CP 45; ‘Happy Ending’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CSP 76/78]
7 Or rather, or rather 30-78. (or rather, 66-78.)
10-12 Simple to prove/That deeds indeed/In life succeed 30-78. (succeed, 66-78.)
13-15 But love in love/And tales in tales/Where no one fails. 30-78.
   (in love, 66-78.)

XX: The strings’ excitement, the applauding drum

[P 30; P 33; CP 45; ‘Family Ghosts’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CSP 76/78]
1 30-78. (drum, 66-78.)
3 That out of cloud the ancestral face may come. 30-78. (come, 66-78.)
5 Graphiti-writers, moss-grown with whimsies, 30-78. (Graffiti-writers, 50-78.)
13 *Yet there’s no peace in this assaulted city 30-50:
   Yet there’s no peace in the assaulted city, 66-78.
16 *And all emotions to expression came, 30-50:
   And all emotions to expression come, 66-78.

XXI: On Sunday walks

[P 30; P 33; CP 45; ‘Such Nice People’; CSP 50; CSP 66; ‘On Sunday Walks’; CP 76/78]
5-6 Sitting all day/By the open window 30-78. (window, 66-78.)
7-8 Say what they say/Know what to know 30-78. (say, 66-78. know, 66-78.)
12-14 With so much done/Without a thought/Of the anonymous lampoon 30-78.
   (done, 66-78. lampoon, 66-78.)
16-17 Though in the night/Pursued by eaters 30-78.
   (night, 66-78. eaters, 66-78.)
16/17 (no stanza break) 30-45; 66-78. (stanza break) 50:
24 Father by sun/Lives on and on 30-78. (and on, 66-78.)
30-31 That Roman nose/Is noticed in the villages 30-78. (villages, 66-78.)
35-37 Not meaning to deceive,/Wish to give suck/Enforces make-believe 30-78.
   (deceive 33: make-believe, 66-78.)
38-41 And what was fear/Of fever and bad-luck/Is now a scare/At certain names 30-78.
   (names, 66-78.)
42-44 A need for charms/For certain words/At certain fords 30-78.
   (charms, 66-78. fords, 45-78.)
45-46 And what was livelihood/Is tallness, strongness 30-78. (strongness, 45-78.)
48-49 All glory and all story/Solemn and not so good. 30-78.
   (story, 45-78. good 33:)

XXII: Get there if you can and see the land you once were proud to own

[P 30; Twentieth Century, March 1931, ‘By W.H. Auden’; P 33]
2 Though the roads have almost vanished and the expresses never run: 30–33.
(*vanished 31:)
17 These were boon companions who devised the legends for our tombs, 30–33.
(*These were our boon companions 31:)
24 'Sunbathe, pretty till You're twenty. You shall be our servants then.' 30–33.
(pretty, 31: *our servant 31:)
27 Yours you say were parents to avoid, avoid then if You please 30–33.
(*to avoid, avoid them 31:)
28 Do the reverse on all occasions till you catch the same disease. 30–33.
(*on all occasion 33:)
31–34 Ours was a Renaissance, we were going to have lovely fun;
Quite prepared for any lark, until we found it wasn't done.
So we sit at table talking, pornographic as we dine,
Each the good old topic, meaningless as an electric sign. 30, 31.
(the sixteenth and seventeenth stanzas, cut) 33.
39 Lawrence, Blake and Homer Lane, once healers in our English land: 30–33.
(Blake, 31:)
48 Meaning that the mob has realized something's up, and start to smash; 30–33.
(realised 31:)
49 Engine-drivers with their oil-cans, factory girls in overalls 30–33.
(Engine drivers 31:)

XXIII: Nor was that final, for about that time
[P 30]

XXIV: From scars where kestrels hover,
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'Missing'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]
8–9 Hear curlew's creaking call/From angles unforeseen, 30–78. (unforeseen, 33, 45:)
13–14 And streams are acrid yet/To an unaccustomed lip. 30–78. (lip; 45–78.)
21–22 Heroes are buried who/Did not believe in death 30–78. (death, 66–78.)
23–25 And bravery is now/Not in the dying breath/But resisting the temptations 30–78.
(now, 66–78.)
26/27 (stanza break) 30, 33: (?) 45: (no stanza break) 50–78.
33–34 Find heroes in the wood,/Far from the capital 30–78. (capital, 66–78.)
34/35 (stanza break) 30–50: (no stanza break) 66–78.
38 'Leave for Cape Wrath to-night,' 30–78. (tonight," 45:)

XXV: Suppose they met, the inevitable procedure,
[P 28; P 30]
XXVI: Taller to-day, we remember similar evenings,
[P 28, XVI; P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'As Well as Can Be Expected'; CSP 50, 'Taller To-day'; SP 58/59; CSP 66: CP 76/78]

2 *Walking together in the windless orchard 28-50:
Walking together in a windless orchard 58-78.

4-10 *Again in the room with the sofa hiding the grate,
Look down to the river when the rain is over,
See him turn to the window, hearing our last
Of Captain Ferguson.

It is seen how excellent hands have turned to commonness.
One staring too long, went blind in a tower,
One sold all his manors to fight, broke through, and faltered. 28-50.
(two stanzas, cut) 58-78.
(4 grate 28: 6 *turn in the window, 28: 9 One, 28: in a tower; 28:)

11 Nights come bringing the snow, and the dead howl 28-78. (snow; 28:)

12 *Under the headlands in their windy dwelling 28-50: (dwelling, 28:)
Under headlands in their windy dwelling 58-78.

15 *But happy we, though no nearer each other, 28:
But happy now, though no nearer each other, 30-78.

16 *See the farms lighted up the valley, 28:
We see the farms lighted all along the valley; 30-50:
We see farms lighted all along the valley; 58-78.

17 *Down at the mill-shed the hammering stops 28-50:
Down at the mill-shed hammering stops 58-78.

19-20 *Noises at dawn will bring/Freedom to some, 28:
Noises at dawn will bring/Freedom for some, 30-78.

20-21 but not this peace/No bird can contradict: 28-78. (contradict, 28:)

21 *passing, but is sufficient now 28-58/59: (passing 28:)
passing but here, sufficient now 66-78.

XXVII: No trenchant parting this
[P 28, III; P 30]

XXVIII: Under boughs between our tentative endearments how should we hear
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'When the Devil Drives'; CSP 50]
(No change between the four versions.)

XXIX: Consider this and in our time
[P 30; P 33; CP 45, 'Consider'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

9 Dangerous, easy, in furs, in uniform 30-78. (uniform, 66-78.)

10 And constellated at reserved tables 30-78. (tables, 66-78.)
Supplied with feelings by an efficient band 30-78. (band, 66-78.)

More powerful than the great northern whale 30-78. (whale, 66-78.)

*Financier, leaving your little room
Where the money is made but not spent,
You'll need your typist and your boy no more;
The game is up for you and for the others,
Who, thinking, pace in slippers on the lawns
Of College Quad. or Cathedral Close,
Who are born nurses, who live in shorts
Sleeping with people and playing fives. 30, 33. (47 Quad 33:)

(The first eight lines of the third and last stanza, cut.) 45-78.

Sir, no man's enemy, forgiving all
[P 30; P 33; SP 40; CP 45, 'Petition'; CSP 50]

That, spotted, they turn though the reverse were great: 30-50. (great 33:)

II: Doom is dark and deeper than any sea-dingle.
[New Signatures (1932), 'Chorus From a Play'; P 33; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Something Is Bound to Happen'; CSP 50, 'The Wanderer'; SP 58/59, 'Chorus'; CSP 66, 'The Wanderer'; SP 68; CP 76/78]

That he should leave his house, 32-78. (house; 32:)

*No cloud-soft hand can hold him, restraint by women; 32-78.

(No cloud-soft hands 32: women, 32:)

*By place-keepers, by forest trees, 32:
Through place-keepers, through forest trees, 33-78.

Houses for fishes, suffocating water, 32-78. (water; 32:)

There head falls forward, fatigued at evening,/And dreams of home, 32-78. (home: 32:)

Save him from hostile capture, 32-78. (capture 32:)

*From sudden tiger's spring at corner; 32-58: (corner: 32:)

From sudden tiger's leap at corner; 66-78.

From gradual ruin spreading like a stain; 32-78. (stain: 32:)

Converting number from vague to certain, 32-78. (certain 32:)

VI: Between attention and attention
[P 33; CP 45, 'Make Up Your Mind'; CSP 50, 'Easy Knowledge'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

Save him from hostile capture, 32-78. (capture 32:)

*From sudden tiger's spring at corner; 32-58: (corner: 32:)

From sudden tiger's leap at corner; 66-78.

From gradual ruin spreading like a stain; 32-78. (stain: 32:)

Converting number from vague to certain, 32-78. (certain 32:)

(And attention, 66-78.)
Y. S. YAMADA

2 The first and last decision 33-78. (decision, 66-78.)
15 The uncertain flesh 33-78. (flesh, 66-78.)
16-17 Scraping back chair/For the wrong train, 33-78. [Taken from P 28, XII.]
18-21 Falling in slush,/Before a friend's friend/Or shaking hands/With a snub-nosed
winner. 33-78. (in slush 66-78.) [Taken from P 28, IX, excepting I. 19.]
30-31 While the divided face/Has no grace./No discretion, 33-78. (grace 50-78.)
36 The easy knowledge 33-50; 76/78. (dropped) 66:

IX: Its no use raising a shout.
[P 33: A Little Treasury of Modern Poetry (ed. Oscar Williams, 1946*)]

XIII: What's in your mind, my dove, my coney;
[Twentieth Century, Nov. 1933*; P 33; SP 38; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical
Pieces, XXXVII'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Five Songs, I': CP 76/78]
7 Go through the motions of exploring the familiar. 33-78. (familiar; 38-78.)

XXIII: Look there! The sunk road winding
[Twentieth Century, Feb. 1933 (no title); P 33; CP 45, 'The Bonfires'; CSP 50; CSP 66;
CP 76/78.] (TC stands for the Twentieth Century reading below.)
2 To the fortified farm. TC-78. (farm: TC:)
5 Are we the stubborn athletes; TC-78. (athletes, TC:)
10 Converging to attack; TC-78. (attack TC:)
11-12 The sound behind our back/Of glaciers calving. TC-78. (calving? TC:)
13 *In legend, each one simple, TC:
In legend all were simple, 33-78.
14 *They hew the straightened spot, TC:
And held the staitened spot; 33-78. (straitened 45-78.)
15-16 But we in legend not,/Are not simple. TC-78.
(in legend not TC: simple; TC:)
17 In weakness how much further; TC-78. (further TC:)
19 By hedgehog's gradual foot, TC-78. (foot TC:)
22-23 From garden bonfires lit,/To where we burning sit: TC-78.
(lit TC: sit— TC:)
24 Good, if it's thorough. TC-78. (thorough, 45-78.)
25 It won't be us who eavesdrop TC, 33:
Leaving no double traitor 45-78.
26 That day of luck and heat, TC:
In days of luck and heat, 33-78.
27 Timing the double beat TC, 33: (beat, TC:)
To time the double beat, 45-78.
XXV: Who will endure

[SP 33; CP 45, 'Better Not'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'No Change of Place'; CSP 66; CP 76/78.]

3 Journey from one place to another? 33-78. (another, 58-78.)

6 Between the land and sea; 33-78. (sea 58-78.)

8-9 *Leaning on chained-up gate/At edge of wood. 33-78.

10-12 Metals run/Burnished or rusty in the sun/From town to town, 33-78.

19/20 (no stanza break) 33-50: (stanza break) 58-78.

20-21 For should professional traveller come,/Asked at the fireside he is dumb, 33-78.

22 *Declining with a snail mad smile, 33-50:

Declining with a secret smile, 58-78.

24 *Conjectures on the maps 33-50:

Conjectures on our maps 58-78.

24-25 *that lie/About in ships long high and dry 33-50. (cut) 58-78.

26 *Grow stranger and stranger. 33-50:

grow stranger/And threaten danger. 58-78.

27 There is no change of place 33-78. (place: 58-78.)

28-30 *But shifting of the head

To keep off glare of lamp from face,

Or climbing over to wall-side of bed; 33-50. (30 bed 50.)

28-30 (cut) 58-78.

XXVII: To ask the hard question is simple;

[Criterion, July 1933, the first of 'Two Poems'; P 33; SP 38, V; CP 45, 'What Do You Think?'; CSP 50, 'The Hard Question'; SP 58/59, 'The Question'; CSP 66; CP 76/88] (C stands for the Criterion reading below.)

1 C-78. (simple: 58/59:)

5 And how these do: C-78. (do: 58/59:)

7/8 (stanza break) C-38; 50-78. (no stanza break) 45:

8/9 (no stanza break) C-38; 50-78. (stanza break) 45:

16-17 Of what they learn/From how these things are done. C-78. (done, 58/59:)

17/18 (no stanza break) C-50; 59-78. (stanza break) 58:

18-19 And forgetting to listen or see/Makes forgetting easy; C-78. (easy, 58/59:)

(C stands for the Criterion reading below.)
INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The present list is the corrected and amplified version of the second part of "A Study of W. H. Auden's Textual Revision of the Poems included in Poems (1933) and Look, Stranger! (1936)" published in the Annual Report, vol. XXXIV (1974), of the Faculty of Education, University of Iwate. This earlier version was unsatisfactory in failing to give a whole line in which a variant reading occurs, and also in involving five careless omissions; besides, I could not examine the On This Island text in making the list.

The first line of each poem given at the head of the lists is from the Look, Stranger! first edition text. The abbreviations given in square brackets under the first line are as follows (and only the numerals are used, to show the publication date of each reading, after a line or a variant reading):

- LS = Look, Stranger! (Faber & Faber, 1936)
- OTI = On This Island (Random House, 1937)
- SP 38 = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1938)
- SP 40 = Some Poems (Faber & Faber, 1940)
- CP 45 = Collected Poetry (Random House, 1945)
- CSP 50 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1930–1944 (Faber & Faber, 1950)
- SP 58 = W. H. Auden, A Selection by the Author (Penguin Books, 1958)
- SP 59 = Selected Poetry of W. H. Auden (Random House, 1959)
- CSP 66 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1927–1957 (Faber & Faber, 1966)
- SP 68 = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1968)
- CP 76 = Collected Poems (Random House/Faber & Faber, 1976)
- CP 78 = Collected Poems (Random House, second printing, 1978)

In the list, every line involving a verbal change is asterisked. Where the change is in punctuation or in spelling, a whole line is cited from the text, and the variant reading is given in round brackets after or under the line.

I am very grateful to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University for his kindness in providing me with a xeroxed copy of the first edition of On This Island.

October 1, 1988

Y. S. Y.

A collation of the OTI text against that of LS revealed that seventeen variant readings occur in the former, of which most seem to be mere misprints, but several verbal changes enter into the later collections.
Out on the lawn I lie in bed,
[ Listener, 7 March 1934, ‘Summer Night’; LS, ‘II/(To Geoffrey Hayland)’; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, ‘A Summer Night 1933’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘A Summer Night’; CP 76/78 ]

1 34-78. (in bed 34:)

2-3 Vega conspicuous overhead/In the windless nights of June; 34-78.
(June 34: June, 45-78.)

4-5 *Forests of green have done complete/The day’s activity; my feet 34-40:
As congregated leaves complete/Their day’s activity; my feet 45-78.

7-8 Lucky, this point in time and space/Is chosen as my working place; 34-78.
(working place 34: working-place, 45-78.)

11-12 *The leisured drives through a land of farms,/Are good to the newcomer.
(farms/ 45-78. *to a newcomer. 66-78.) 34-78.

14-15 I sit on each calm evening,/Enchanted as the flowers 34-78.
(evening 45-78.)

16 The opening light draws out of hiding 34-78. (*lights 50:)

17 *From leaves with all its dove-like pleading 34-40:
With all its gradual dove-like pleading, 45-78.

18 Its logic and its powers. 34-78. (powers 45, 50: powers: 66-78.)

19-21 That later we, though parted then/May still recall these evenings when/Fear gave his watch no look; 34-78. (19 then, 45-78.)

22-24 The lion griefs loped from the shade/And on our knees their muzzles laid,/And Death put down his book. 34-78. (24 book 45, 50:)

25-30 (the fifth stanza, dropped) 45-78.

31 Now North and South and East and West 34-40:
Now north and south and east and west 45-78.

32 Those I love lie down to rest; 34-78. (rest 34:)

33 The moon looks on them all: 34-78. (all; 34: all, 45-78.)

34 The healers and the brilliant talkers, 34-78. (talkers 45-76:)

37 She climbs the European sky; 34-78. (sky, 45-78.)

38-39 *Churches and power stations lie/Alike among earth’s fixtures: 34-78.
(*power-station 45, 50: power-stations 66-78.)

40 Into the galleries she peers, 34-78. (peers 45-78.)

41 *And blankly as an orphan stares 34-40:
And blankly as a butcher stares 45-78.

42 Upon the marvellous pictures. 34-78. (pictures 45, 50:)

O love, the interest itself in thoughtless Heaven,
W. H. Auden's Revising Process (X)

43-44 To gravity attentive, she/Can notice nothing here; 34-78. (here, 45-78.)
44-45 *though we/Whom hunger cannot move. 34-40: (move 34:)
    though we/Whom hunger does not move, 45-78.
46-48 From gardens where we feel secure/Look up, and with a sigh endure/The
tyrannies of love: 34-78. (Look up 34; 45-78.)
49-51 And, gentle, do not care to know./Where Poland draws her Eastern bow,/What violence is done; 34-78. (And gentle 34:  know 34:
    her eastern bow 34: her eastern bow, 45-78. is done, 45-78.)

55-72 *34-40. (the tenth to twelfth stanzas, dropped) 45-78.
73 *Soon through the dykes of our content 34-40:
    Soon, soon, through dykes of our content 45-78.
74 The crumpling flood will force a rent, 34-78. (rent 34; 45-78.)
75 And taller than a tree 34:/ And, taller than a tree, 36-78.
76-78 Hold sudden death before our eyes/Whose river-dreams long hid the size/And
vigours of the sea 34-78. (our eyes, 34:  river dreams 45-78.)
79-81 But when the waters make retreat/And through the black mud first the wheat
    /In shy green stalks appears; 34-78. (appears, 45-78.)
82-84 When stranded monsters gasping lie,/And sounds of riveting terrify/Their
whorled unsubtle ears: 34-78. (*rivetting 34:  ears, 45-78.)
85-86 *May this for which we dread to lose/Our privacy, need no excuse 34-40:
    May these delights we dread to lose,/*This privacy, need no excuse 45-78.
87 But to that strength belong; 34-78. (belong, 45-78.)
89 *The drowned voice of his parents rise 34-40: (*voices 34:)
    The drowned parental voices rise 45-78.
91 After discharges of alarm, 34-78. (alarm 34; 45-78.)
92-93 *All unpredicted may it calm/The pulse of nervous nations; 34-40:
    All unpredicted let them calm/The pulse of nervous nations, 45-78.
95-96 *Tough in its patience to surpass/The tigress her swift motions. 34-40:
    Tough in their patience to surpass/The tigress her swift motions. 45-78.

Our hunting fathers told the story
[ Listener, 30 May 1934, 'Poem' ; LS, 'III'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'In Father's
Footsteps'; CSP 50, 'Our Hunting Fathers'; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]
6 Behind the quarry's dying glare, 34-78. (glare 34:)
11-12 Who nurtured in that fine tradition/Predicted the result, 34-38:
    Who, nurtured in that fine tradition, /Predicted the result, 45-78.
13-14 *Guessed love by nature suited to/The intricate ways of guilt? 34-78.
    (Love 34; 45-78. guilt; 34; guilt, 45-78.)
15-16 *That human company could so/His southern gestures modify 34:
    That human ligaments could so/His southern gestures modify, 36-78.
Let the florid music praise,
[ LS, ‘IV. SONG’; OTI; CP 1945, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XIII’; CSP 50;
CSP 66, ‘Twelve Songs, III’; CP 76/78 ]
1 36-50: *Let a florid music praise, 66-78.
10-11 The weeping and striking, / Always; 36-78. (Always: 45-78.)
11 time will bring their hour: 36-78. (hour; 45-78.)
12-14 Their secretive children walk / Through your vigilance of breath / To unpardon-
able death, 36-78. (Death, 66-78.)

Look, stranger, at this island now
[ Listener, 18 December 1935, ‘Seaside’; Living Age, June 1936; LS, ‘V’; OTI;
SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XIV’; CSP 50; SP 58/59,
‘Seascape’; CSP 66, ‘On This Island’; CP 76/78 ]
(LA stands for the Living Age reading below.)
1 35-40: *Look, stranger, on this island now 45-78.
8 *Here at the small field’s ending pause 35-78.
(at a small field’s ending 58/59; 78.)
9 Where the chalk wall falls to the foam, and its tall ledges 35-78.
(to the foam 45-78.)
12-13 *And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/-ing surf, and the gull lodges
(after the sucking surf, and the gull lodges LA:) 34-40:
And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/-ing surf, / And the gull lodges
(*And a gull 58/59:) 45-76:
And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/-ing surf, and a gull lodges 78.
15-16 the ships/ Diverge on urgent voluntary errands; 35-78. (errands, 45-78.)
17-19 *And the full view / Indeed may enter / And move in memory 35-78.
(*And this full view 58/59; 78.)

O what is that sound which so thrills the ear
[ New Verse, December 1934, ‘Ballad’; LS, ‘VI’; OTI; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other
Musical Pieces, XXIV’; CSP 50; SP 58/59, ‘The Quarry’, CSP 66, ‘O What is that
Sound’; SP 68; CP 76, ‘O What Is That Sound’; CP 78, ‘O What Is That Sound’ ]
9 O what are they doing with all that gear; 34-78. (gear, 45-78.)
11 *Only the usual manoeuvres, dear, 34-37:
Only their usual manoeuvres, dear, 45-78.
13 O why have they left the road down there; 34-78. (there, 45-78.)
15 *Perhaps a change in the orders, dear; 34-37:
Perhaps a change in their orders, dear. 45-66.
O haven't they stopped for the doctor's care; 34-78. (care, 45-78.)
O is it the parson they want with white hair; 34-78.
(they want, 34; 45-78. hair, 45-78.)
O it must be the farmer who lives so near; 34-78. (near, 34: near. 45-78.)
*It must be the farmer so cunning, so cunning? 34-78.
(the farmer, 34: *so cunning, cunning; 34:)
They have passed the farm already, dear, 34-37:
They have passed the farmyard already, dear, 45-78.
O where are you going? stay with me here! 34-78. (Stay 45-78. here. 34:)
Were the vows you swore me deceiving, deceiving? 34-37:
Were the vows you swore deceiving, deceiving? 45-78.
*Their feet are heavy on the floor 34-37:
Their boots are heavy on the floor 45-78.

Hearing of harvests rotting in the valleys,
[ The second of 'Two Poems', Criterion, July 1933; LS, 'VII'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'Paysage Moralisé'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]

*33-78. (*of harvest 33: valleys 50:)
We honour founders of these starving cities, 33-78. (cities 45-78.)
Whose honour is the image of our sorrow. 33-78. (sorrow, 45-78.)
Dreaming of evening walks through learned cities, 33-78. (cities 45-78.)
*Visions of green to them who craved for water. 33; 45-78.
Visions of green to them that craved for water. 36-38:
Where everyday was dancing in the valleys, 33-78. (valleys 33; 45-78.)
*And all the year trees blossomed on the mountains, 33-38:
And all the green trees blossomed on the mountains 45-78. (mountains, 66-78.)
No marvellous creature rose up from the water, 33-78. (water; 45-78.)
There was still gold and silver in the mountains, 33-78. (mountains 45-78.)
And hunger was a more immediate sorrow; 33-78. (sorrow, 45-78.)
*Although to moping villagers in valleys 33-50; 78.
Although to moping villages in valleys 66, 76:
Some waving pilgrims were describing islands. 33-78. (islands... 45-78.)
*Are stalking head-up, lovely through the cities; 33-38:
Are stalking, head-up, lovely, through our cities; 45-78.
And sail with them across the lime-green water; 33-78. (water, 33; 45-78.)
*Sitting at their white sides, forget your sorrow, 33; 45-78.
Sitting at their white sides, forget their sorrow, 36-38:
The shadow cast across your lives by mountains.' 33-78.
(by mountains" 45: by mountains' 50:)
So many, doubtful, perished in the mountains 33-78. (mountains, 45-78.)
Climbing up crags to get a view of islands; (islands, 45-78.)
Which stayed them when they reached unhappy cities; (cities, 45-78.)
So many, careless, dived and drowned in water; (water, 45-78.)
*It is the sorrow; shall it melt? (islands, 45-78.)
It is our sorrow. Shall it melt? (cities, 45-78.)
*Ah, water/Would gush, flush, green these mountains and these valleys, (water, 45-78.)
Then water/Would gush, flush, green these mountains and these valleys, (valleys 37:)
Now the leaves are falling fast.
[Nurse's flowers will not last; (last, 66-78.)
Nurses to the graves are gone, (last, 66-78.)
Whispering neighbours, left and right, (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
*Pluck us from the real delight; (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Pluck us from our real delight; (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Daunt us from our true delight, (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
*And the active hands must freeze (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
And our active hands must freeze (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Able hands are left to freeze (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Able hands are forced to freeze (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
*Lonely on the separate knees. (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Lonely on our separate knees, (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
Derelict on lonely knees. (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
*Dead in hundreds at the back/Follow wooden in our track, (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
("at our back NS:")
Close behind us on our track, Dead in hundreds cry Alack, (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
*Starving through the leafless wood (wood, 66-78.)
Scrawny through a plundered wood, (wood, 66-78.)
Trolls run scolding for their food; (food, 66-78.)
*And the nightingale is dumb, (food, 66-78.)
/ Owl and nightingale are dumb, (food, 66-78.)
*Cold, impossible, ahead/Lifts the mountain's lovely head (head, 66-78.)
Clear, unscaleable, ahead/Rise the Mountains of Instead, (head, 66-78.)
*Whose white waterfall could bless/Travellers in their last distress. (head, 66-78.)
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(*waterfalls NS:)

From whose cold cascading streams/None may drink except in dreams. 66-78.

The earth turns over, our side feels the cold,
[ New Verse, February 1934, 'Poem'; LS, 'IX'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Through the Looking-Glass'; CSP 50, 'Through the Looking Glass'; CSP 66, Through the Looking-Glass'; CP 76/78 ]

1 34-50: (over; 45, 50: cold; 45, 50:)
   *Earth has turned over; our side feels the cold, 66-78.
2 And life sinks choking in the wells of trees; 34-78.
   (trees: 45, 50: trees, 66-78.)
3 *The ticking heart comes to a standstill, killed, 34-50: (killed; 45, 50:)
   A faint heart here and there stops ticking, killed, 66-78
4 *The icing on the pond waits for its boys. 34:
   The icing on the pond waits for the boys. 36-50:
   Icing on ponds entrances village boys: 66-78.
5 *Among the holly and the gifts I move, 34-50:
   Among wreathed holly and wrapped gifts I move, 66-78.
6 *The carols on the piano, the glowing hearth, 34-50:
   Old carols on the piano, a glowing hearth, 66-78.
7 *All our traditional sympathy with birth, 34-40; 66-78.
   All on traditional sympathy with birth, 45, 50:
8 *Put by your challenge to the shifts of love. 34-78. (of Love. 45, 50:)
9 Your portrait hangs before me on the wall 34-78. (wall; 34: wall, 45-78.)
10 And there what view I wish for, I shall find, 34-78. (wish for 45-78.)
11 The wooded or the stony— 34-78. (stony; 34; 45-78.)
11-12 *though not all/The painter's gifts can make its flatness round— 34-78.
   (*The painters gifts 34: round; 45-78.)
13 *Through the blue irises the heaven of failures, 34-40:
   Though each blue iris see the heaven of failures, 45, 50:
   Through each blue iris greet the heaven of failures, 66-78.
14 *The mirror world where logic is reversed, 34-50:
   That mirror world where Logic is reversed, 45-78.
15 *When age becomes the handsome child at last, 34:
   Where age becomes the handsome child at last, 36-78.
16 *The glass sea parted for the country sailors. 34-50: (sailors 45, 50:)
   The glass wave parted for the country sailors. 66-78.
17 *Where move the enormous comics, drawn from life; 34-40:
   There move the enormous comics, drawn from life— 45-78.
19 My mother chasing letters with a knife: 34-78. (knife. 45-78.)
20 You are not present as a character. 34-78.

(character— 34: character; 45-78.)

21 Only the family have speaking parts. 34:

—Only the family have speaking parts— 36-40:

(Only the family have speaking parts). 45-78.

22 You are a valley or a river bend, 34-78. (a river-bend, 45-78.)

23 The one an aunt refers to as a friend, 34-78. (an Aunt 34:)

24 *The tree from which the weasel racing starts. 34-78. (*weasel 34:)

25 *False; but no falser than the world it matches, 34-40:

Behind me roars the other world it matches, 45, 50:

Behind me roars that other world it matches, 66-78.

26 *The total state where all must wear your badges, 34-40:

His total state where all must wear your badges 45-78. (badges, 66-78.)

27 Keep order perfect as a naval school: 34-78. (school. 45-78.)

29 Noble emotions organized and massed 34-40: (*organised 34:)

Noble emotions, organized and massed, 45-78.

30 To cheer your image as it flashes by; 34-78. (by, 45-78.)

34 *And family affection the one in cypher; 34-40:

And family affection speaks in cypher. 45-78.

36 *That comfort to the homesick children offer: 34-40: (offer, 34:)

That comfort to its homesick children offer, 45-78.

38 *Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a room, 34:

Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a dream, 36-40:

Unable to choose either for a home, 45-78.

40 *In the great bed at midnight to your arms. 34-50: (arms 45, 50:)

In a great bed at midnight to your arms. 66-78.

43 *And time flies on above the dreamer’s head, 34-40:

While time flies on above the dreamer’s head, 45-78.

44 Flies on, flies on, and with your beauty flies. 34-78. (flies, 45-78.)

45-46 *All things he takes and loses but conceit./The Alec who can buy the life within, 34-40: (conceit; 34:  *This Alec still can buy 34:)

And pride succeeds to each succeeding state,/Still able to buy up the life within, 45-78.

49 Language of moderation cannot hide; 34-78. (hide 34: hide:— 45-78.)

50 *My sea is empty and the waves are rough: 34-40:

My sea is empty and its waves are rough; 45-78.

51 Gone from the map the shore where childhood played 34-78. (played, 45-78.)

53 *Lost in my wake my archipelago, 34:

Lost in my wake the archipelago, 36-78.

54 Islands of self through which I sailed all day, 34-78. (all day 45-78.)
55 *Planting a pirate's flag, a generous boy; 34-78. (*a generous bay; 34 :)
56 *And lost the way to action and to you. 34-50:
   And lost my way to action and to you. 66-78.
57-58 *Lost if I steer. Gale of desire may blow/Sailor and ship 34-40:
   Lost if I steer. Tempest and tide may blow/Sailor and ship 45-78.
60 *Birth of a natural order and of love; 34-40:
   The birth of natural order and true love: 45-78.

Now from my window-sill I watch the night
[ New Country, 1933, Part II of 'A Happy New Year'; LS, 'X'; OTI; CP 45, 'Not
All the Candidates Pass'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'The Watchers'; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]
1 33-78. (night, 45-78.)
5 *The jets in both the dormitories are out. 33-50:
   The lights of near-by families are out. 58-78.
7-8 The lilac bush like a conspirator/Shams dead upon the lawn and there 33-78.
   (upon the lawn, 45-78.)
11-20 (the third and fourth stanzas) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.
21-22 O Lords of limit, training dark and light/And setting a tabu 'twixt left and
   right: 33-78. (of Limit, 45-78. and right, 45-78.)
23-24 The influential quiet twins/From whom all property begins, 33-78.
   (begins 33 :)
25 Look leniently upon us all to-night. 33-78. (tonight. 45 :)
26-30 (the sixth stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.
31 No one has seen you. None can say of late, 33-78. (you: none 45-78.
   say; —'Of late— 45, 50 : say; 'Of late— 58-66 : say, 'Of late 76:
   say, 'Of late— 78.)
32 'Here—you can see the marks—they lay in wait.' 33-37: ('Here— 33 :)
   Here. You can see the marks—they lay in wait." 45-78. (in wait,' 58-78.)
33-34 *But in my thought to-night you seem/Forms which I saw once in a dream,
   (*in my thoughts 37-78. tonight 45 :)
36 With guns beneath your arms, in sun and wet 33-78. (and wet, 45-78.)
41-45 (the ninth stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.
46 Look not too closely, be not over-quick; 33-78. (over quick 33 :)
48-49 Using the mole's device, the carriage/Of peacock 33-78. (Using, 33 :)
50 *For we shall only pass you by a trick. 33-37:
   And we shall only pass you by a trick. 45-78.
50/51 (three stanzas) 33. (dropped) 36-78.
51-55 (the eleventh stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.
56-65 (the twelfth and thirteenth stanzas) 33-37. (dropped) 45-78.
67-68 *And what if the starving visionary have seen/The carnival 33-37:
What if the starving visionary have seen/The carnival 45-78.

70-71 *use it, that none//O from this table break uncontrollably away 33-37:
use it, that none//O, from their tables break uncontrollably away, 45-78.

73-74 *Dangerous in the room, or out wild—/—ly spinning like a top in the field,
in the room 33: *in a room 58-78.
wildly/Spinning 45: wild—/—ly spinning 50-78.)

Just as his dream foretold, he met them all:

6-7 *the deaf girl too/Seemed to expect him at the green chateau; 36-78.
(at the green château; 50: *at her green chateau; 66-78.)

8 *The meal was laid, the guest room full of flowers. 36-78.
(*A meal 66-78. the guest-room 66-78.)

9 *More, the talk always took the wished-for turn, 36-78. (their talk 66-78.)

10 *Dwelt on the need for stroking and advice; 36-50:
Dwelt on the need for someone to advise, 66-78.

11 Yet, at each meeting, he was forced to learn, 36-78. (learn 66-78.)

13-14 Were they or he/The physician, bridegroom and incendiary? 36-78.
(bridegroom, 45, 50:)

As it is, plenty;
[ LS, ‘XII’; OTI; CP 45, ‘His Excellency’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]

2-3 As it’s admitted/The children happy 36-78. (happy, 66-78.)

4-5 And the car, the car/That goes so far 36-78. (far, 45-78.)

12-13 All that was thought/As like as not, is not; 36-78. (as not 45-66:)

14-15 When nothing was enough/But love, but love 36-78. (but love, 45-78.)

16-17 *And the rough future/Of an intransigent nature 36-78.
(*Of an intrinsigious nature, 45-78.)

21 Forget, Forget. 36, 37: / Forget, forget. 45-78.

22-23 *Let him not cease to praise/Then his spacious days; 36-78.
(praise./Then, 45, 50:)
Let him not cease to praise./Then, his lordly days; 66-78.

27-28 *The profits larger/And the sins venal, 36, 37:
The profit larger/And the sin venal 45-78. (venial, 50-78.)

A shilling life will give you all the facts:
[ Rep, April 1934*; LS, ‘XIII’; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, ‘Who’s Who’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]

8 *Love made him weep his pints like you and me. 36-45; 66-78.
Brothers, who when the sirens roar

The chimneys are smoking, the crocus is out in the border;

May with its light behaving
[ *Listener*, 15 May 1935, ‘Poem’; LS, ‘XVI’; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XV’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘May’; CP 76/78 ]

2 Stirs vessel, eye, and limb; 35-78. (eye and limb, 66-78.)
5 *And to the swan-delighting river 35-50:
   And to each swan-delighting river 66-78.
6–7 *The careless picnics come,/The living white and red. 35-50:
   The careless picnics come/In living white and red. 66-78.
8–9 *The dead remote and hooded/In their enclosures rest; 35-50:
   Our dead, remote and hooded,/In hollows rest, 66-78.
9–10 *but we/From the vague woods have broken, 35-50: (*and we/ 35:)
   but we/From their vague woods have broken, 66-78.
11–12 Forests where children meet/And the white angel–vampires flit; 36–78.
   (flit, 35; 66-78.)
13 *Stand now with shaded eye, 35; 66-78. / We stand with shaded eye, 36–50:
   (us, 45–78.)
15 The real world lies before us; 35–78. (us, 45–78.)
16 *Animal motions of the young, 35–50: / Brave motions of the young, 66–78.
17 *The common wish for death, 35–50: / Abundant wish for death, 66–78.
18 *The pleasured and the haunted; 35–50:
   The pleasing, pleased, haunted: 66–78.
19–20 *The dying master sinks tormented/In the admirers’ ring, 35–50:
   (ring; 45, 50:)
   A dying Master sinks tormented/In his admirers’ ring, 66–78.
22–24 *And love that makes impatient/The tortoise and the roe, and lays/The blonde beside the dark, 35–50:
   And love that makes impatient/Tortoise and roe, that lays/The blonde beside the dark, 66–78.
27–28 *How insufficient is/The endearment and the look, 36–50:
   How insufficient is/Touch, endearment, look, 66–78.

Here on the cropped grass of the narrow ridge I stand,
The sun shines down on the ships at sea
[ New Oxford Outlook, May 1933, 'To a Young Man on His Twenty-First Birthday'; LS, 'XVIII'; OTI ]

To lie flat on the back with the knees flexed
[ LS, 'XIX'; OTI; CP 45, 'What's the Matter?'; CSP 50 ]

Fleeing the short-haired mad executives,
[ New Oxford Outlook, November 1933, 'Poem'; LS, 'XX'; OTI; CP 45, 'The Climbers'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Two Climbs'; CP 76/78 ]

1 33–50: *Fleeing from short-haired mad executives, 66–78.
2 *The subtle useless faces round my home, 33–37:
   The sad and useless faces round my home, 45–78.
3 *Upon the mountains of our fear I climb; 33–37:
   Upon the mountains of my fear I climb; 45–78. (climb: 66–78.)
4–5 *Above, the breakneck scorching rock, the caves;/No col, no water; 33–50:
   (the caves, 45, 50:)
   Above, a breakneck scorching rock; no caves,/No col, no water. 66–78.
5–6 with excuse concocted,/Soon on a lower alp I fall and pant, 33–78.
   (With excuse 66–78.)
7–8 *Cooling my face there in the faults that flaunt/The life 33–50:
   Cooling my weariness in faults that flaunt/A life 66–78.
9 Climbing with you was easy as a vow; 33–78. (vow: 45, 50: vow. 66–78.)
10 We reached the top not hungry in the least; 33–78. (least, 45–78.)
11 But it was eyes we looked at, not the view; 33–78. (view, 45–78.)
12 Saw nothing but ourselves, left-handed, lost: 33–78.
   (nothing, 37: lost, 33; 66–78. lost; 45, 50:)
13–14 Returned to shore, the rich interior still/Unknown. 33–78.
   (Unknown: 33; 66–78.)
14 Love gave the power, but took the will. 33–78. (love gave 33; 66–78.)

Easily, my dear, you move, easily your head
[ Listener, 20 February 1935, 'A Bride in the '30s (for Madame Mougeot) [sic]'; LS, 'XXI'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'A Bride in the 30's'; CPS 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]

1 35–50: (head, 45, 50:) *Easily you move, easily your head, 66–78.
2 *And easily as through the leaves of a photograph album 35–50:
W. H. Auden's Revising Process (X)

(*as through leaves 35; 45, 50:)
And easily, as through leaves of an album, 66-78.
2-3 I'm led/Through the night's delights and the day's impressions, 35-78.

(impressions 35:)
4 *Past the tall tenements and the trees in the wood; 35-50:
(*Pass 40: in the wood 35: in the wood, 45, 50:)
Past tenement, river, upland, wood, 66-78.
7 Looking and loving our behaviours pass 35-78. (and loving, 66-78.)
8 *The stones the steels and the polished glass; 35-40: (The stones, 37:)
The stones, the steels, and the polished glass; 45, 50:
Things of stone, of steel and of polished glass; 66-78.
9 *Lucky to Love the new pansy railway, 35-40: (to love 35: railway 35:)
Lucky to love the strategic railway, 45-78. (to Love 66-78:)
10 *The sterile farms where his looks are fed, 35-50:
The run-down farms where his looks are fed, 66-78.
11-12 *And in the policed unlucky city/Lucky his bed. 35-50:
And in each policed unlucky city/Lucky his bed. 66-78.
15 Through bankrupt countries where they mend the roads 35-78. (roads, 66-78.)
16 *Along the endless plains his will is 35-50; (is, 45, 50;)
Along unending plains his will is, 66-78.
17-18 Intent as a collector to pursue/His greens and lilies. 35-78.
(as a collector, 45-78. and lilies 45, 50:)
20 *The pool of silence and the tower of grace, 35-50: (of grace 35:)
A pool of silence or a tower of grace, 66-78.
21 To conjure a camera into a wishing rose; 35-78.
(a wishing rose 35: a wishing-rose, 66-78.)
23-24 *The horses, the fountains, the sidetrum, the trombone/And the dance, the dance. 35-50: (the side-drum, the trombone, 45, 50:)
Horses, fountains, a side-drum, a trombone,*/The cosmic dance. 66-78.
25 Summoned by such a music from our time, 35-78. (time 35; 45, 50:)
26-27 *Such images to audience come/As vanity cannot dispel nor bless: 35-50:
(nor bless; 45, 50:)
Such images to sight and audience come/As Vanity cannot dispel or bless, 66-78.
28 *Hunger and love in their variations 35-50: (variations, 45, 50:)
Hunger and fear in their variations, 66-78.
29-30 *Grouped invalids watching the flight of the birds/And single assassins. 35-50:
(of the birds, 45, 50: assassins, 45, 50:)
Grouped invalids watching movements of birds,/And single assassins, 66-78.
31 *Ten thousand of the desperate marching by 35-40:
Ten million of the desperate marching by, 45, 50:
Ten desperate million marching by, 66-78.
32 Five feet, six feet, seven feet high: 35-78. (high, 45-78.)
33 Hitler and Mussolini in their wooing poses 35-78. (poses, 45-78.)
34 *Churchill acknowledging the the voter's greeting 35-78.
(*the voters' greeting, 45-78.)
35-36 *Van der Lubbe laughing/And our first meeting. 35-78.
(*Van Lubbe 35: van der Lubbe 66-78. laughing, 45-78. meeting 45, 50:)
37-38 But love, except at our proposal, /Will do no trick at his disposal; 35-78.
(But love 35; 45, 50: But Love 66-78. proposal 35; 45-78.
39-40 Without opinions of his own, performs/The programme 35-78.
(of his own 35; 45-78.)
43 *Certain it became while we were still incomplete 35-50:
Certain it became, while still incomplete, 66-78.
44 *There were certain prizes for which we would never compete; 35-50:
There were prizes for which we would never compete: 66-78.
45 *A choice was killed by every childish illness, 35-50:
A choice was killed by each childish illness, 66-78.
46 *The boiling tears among the hothouse plants, 35-40:
The boiling tears amid the hot-house plants, 45-78.
47-48 The rigid promise fractured in the garden,/And the long aunts. 35-78.
(garden 45, 50: aunts 45, 50:)
49 *And every day there bolted from the field 35-50:
While every day there bolted from the field 66-78.
50 Desires to which we could yield; 35-78. (yield, 66-78.)
51 *Fewer and clearer grew the plans, 35-50:
Fewer and clearer grew our plans, 66-78.
52 *Schemes for a life and sketches for a hatred, 35-50:
Schemes for a life-time, sketches for a hatred, 66-78.
55-56 *flesh and bone/These ghosts would like to make their own. 35-50:
flesh and bone/That ghosts would like to make their own: 66-78.
57 *Are they your choices? O, be deaf 35-50: (O be deaf 45, 50:)
Beware them, look away, be deaf, 66-78.
58 *To hatred proffering immediate pleasure 35:
When hatred would proffer her immediate pleasure, 36-50:
When rage would proffer her immediate pleasure 66-78.
59-60 *Glory to swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 35:
And glory swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 36-50:
Or glory swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 66-78.
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61 Be deaf too, standing uncertain now, 35-78.
   (Be deaf too 35: Be deaf, too, 45-78.)
62 A pine tree shadow across your brow, 35-78. (pine-tree 45-78.)
63 To what I hear and wish I did not; 35-78. (not, 35; 45-78.)
64 The voice of love saying lightly, brightly— 35-78.
   (of Love 66-78. brightly 35: brightly, 66-78.)
65-66 *'Be Lubbe, Be Hitler, but be my good/Daily, nightly'. 35-78.
   (be Hitler, 45-78. *but be very good 35: but be my good, 66-78.)
67-78 35-50: (two stanzas, dropped) 66-78.
79 *Wind shakes the tree; the mountains darken; 35-50: (darken: 35:)
   Trees are shaken, mountains darken, 66-78.
80 *And the heart repeats though we would not hearken: 35-40: (hearken; 35:)
   But the heart repeats though we would not hearken: 45-78. (repeats, 66-78.)
81 *'Yours is the choice, to whom the gods awarded 35-50:
   (Yours 50: the choice 35; 45, 50:)
   'Yours the choice to whom the gods awarded 66-78.
82 *The language of learning and the language of love, 35-50: (of love 35:)
   The language of learning, the language of love, 66-78.
83 *Crooked to move as a moneybug or a cancer 35-40:
   Crooked to move as a moneybag or a cancer, 45, 50:
   Crooked to move as a money-bug, as a cancer, 66-78.
84 Or straight as a dove.’ 35-78. (as a dove. 66:)

Night covers up the rigid land
[ LS, ‘XXII. TWO SONGS/(For Benjamin Britten)/1’; OTI ]

Underneath the abject willow,
1 36-59: *Underneath an abject willow, 66-78.
2 Lover, sulk no more; 36-78. (no more: 45-78.)
3 Act from thought should quickly follow: 36-78. (follow. 45-78.)
9-10 Bells that toll across the meadows/From the sombre spire, 36-78.
   (spire 45-78.)
11 *Toll for those unloving shadows 36-38:
   Toll for these unloving shadows 45-78.
17-18 Geese in flocks above you flying/Their direction know; 36-78.
   (flying, 66-78. know, 45-78.)
19-20 *Brooks beneath the thin ice flowing/To their oceans go; 36-59: (go. 45-59:)
Icy brooks beneath you flowing,/To their ocean go. 66-78.

21 *Coldest love will warm to action, 36-38:

Dark and dull is your distraction, 45-78. (distraction: 66-78.)

22-24 Walk then, come,/No longer numb,/Into your satisfaction. 36-78.

(numb 45-78.)

To settle in this village of the heart,

[New Verse, June 1934, 'Poem'; LS, 'XXIII'; OTI; CP 45, 'It's So Dull Here'; CSP 50]

O for doors to be open and an invite with gilded edges

[Spectator, 31 May 1935, 'In the Square'; LS, 'XXIV'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XX'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'Song'; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, I'; SP 68, 'Song of the Beggars'; CP 76/78, 'Twelve Songs/i. SONG OF THE BEGGARS' ] (Double quotation marks are used only in the CP 45 version.)

1 35-78. (—"O for doors 45-78.)

3 *With the somersaults and fireworks, the roast and the smacking kisses— 35-78.

(*With somersaults 50-78. kisses"— 45-78.)

4 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 36-78.)

6 And Garbo's and Cleopatra's wits to go astraying, 35-78. (—"And 45-78.)

7 In a feather ocean with me to go fishing and playing 35-78. (playing, 45-78.)

8 Still jolly when the cock has burst himself with crowing— 35-78.

(crowing"— 45-78.)

9 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

11 *And to stand on green turf among the craning yellow faces, 35-40:

—"And to stand on green turf among the craning yellow faces 45-78,

12 *Dependant on the chestnut, the sable, and Arabian horses, 35-78.

(*Dependent 45-78.)

13 And me with a magic crystal to foresee their places— 35-78. (places"— 45-78.)

14 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78.

(*the cripples 45-78. statue. 50; 66 :)

16 *And this square to be a deck, and these pigeons sails to rig 35-78.

(*This square 35: —"And this square 45-78. *to be deck 45-59:

sails to rig, 45-59: *canvas to rig, 66-78.)

18 To the shaded feverless islands where the melons are big— 35-78.

(big"— 45-78.)

19 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

21 And these shops to be turned to tulips in a garden bed 35-78.

(—"And 45-78. bed, 36 [?], 37-78.)

22 *And me with my stick to thrash each merchant dead 35-78.
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(*with my crutch 45-78.)

23 As he pokes from a flower his bald and wicked head— 35-78. (head"— 45-78.)

24 *Cries the six cripples to the silent statue. 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

26 *And a hole in the bottom of heaven, and Peter and Paul 35-78.

(*A hole 35: — And a hole 45-78.)

28 And every one-legged beggar to have no legs at all— 35-78. (all"— 45-78.)

29 Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

Only the hands are living; to the wheel attracted,
[ LS, ‘XXV. CASINO’; OTI; CP 45, ‘Casino’; CSP 50 ]

That night when joy began
[ Twentieth Century, November 1933, the second of the ‘Two Poems’; LS, ‘XXVI’; OTI; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXI’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘Five Songs, II’; CP 76/78 ]

2 Our narrowest veins to flush 36-78. (flush, 45-78.)

5 But morning let us pass 36-78. (pass, 45; 66-78.)

6-7 *And day by day relief/Outgrew his nervous laugh; 36, 37:

And day by day relief/Outgrows his nervous laugh, 45-78. (laugh 50:)

8 *Grows credulous of peace 36-50: (*Crows 50: peace, 45, 50:)

Grown credulous of peace, 66-78.

9-10 As mile by mile is seen/No trespasser’s reproach 36-78. (reproach, 45-78.)

Fish in the unruffled lakes
[ Listener, 15 April 1936, ‘Poem’; LS, ‘XXVII’; OTI; Poetry of To-day, third series (1938), ‘Fish in the Unruffled Lakes’; SP 40; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, VI’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘Twelve Songs, V’; CP 76/78 ]

(L stands for the Listener reading below.)

2 *The swarming colours wear, L-50: (wear 40:)

Their swarming colours wear, 66-78.

5-6 And the great lion walks/Through his innocent grove; L-78. (grove: L:)

7-8 Lion, fish, and swan/Act, and are gone L-78. (fish and 66-78.)

9 Upon Time’s toppling wave. L-78. (time’s L:)

10 We till shadowed days are done, L-78. (We, 66-78.)

13 The Devil in the clock, L-78. (The devil L; 37:)

14-15 The Goodness carefully worn/For atonement or for luck; L-78.

(The goodness L; 66-78. for luck: L:)

19-20 *Sighs for folly said and done/Twist our narrow days; L-50: (days: L:)

Sighs for folly done and said/Twist our narrow days, 66-78.

23-24 All gifts that to the swan/Impulsive Nature gave, L-78. (nature L:)

(*All gifts 45-78.)
Dear, though the night is gone,


(NV stands for the New Verse reading below.)

2 *The dream still haunts to-day NV-37: (to-day, NV:)

Its dream still haunts today, 45–78. (to-day, 50, 58; 66–78.)

3 That brought us to a room, NV-78. (to a room 45–78.)

4–5 Cavernous, lofty as/A railway terminus, NV–78. (terminus; NV:)

10–11 We kissed and I was glad/At everything you did, NV–78. (We kissed, NV:)

17 *Oh but what worm of guilt NV–50: (*O but NV; 45, 50:)

What buried worm of guilt 58, 59:

What hidden worm of guilt 66–78.

19 Am I the victim of; NV–78. (of? NV: of, 45–78.)

22 Confessed another love; NV–78. (love, NV:)

23–24 And I, submissive, felt/Unwanted and went out? NV–78. (out. NV; 76, 78.)

Love had him fast, but though he fought for breath

[ *New Verse*, October 1933, ‘Five Poems, V’; LS, ‘XXIX’; OTI; CP 45, ‘Meiosis’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78 ]

1 *33–78. (fast: 33: fast 45–78. *caught his breath, 33:)

2 He struggled only to possess Another, 33–78. (another, 33:)

3 *The snare forgotten in the little death; 33–78.

(*his little 33: *their little 66–78. death, 45–78.)

4 *And you, the seed to which he was a mother, 33:

Till You, the seed, to which he was a mother, 36–78. (you, the seed 45–78.)

5 *That never heard of Love, through Love was free, 33–78. (of love, 33; 45–78.

*through love were free, 33: through love was free, 45–78.)

10–11 All sorrow simplified, though almost all/Shall be as subtle when you are as
tall: 33–78. (simplified 45–78.)

12 Yet clearly in that ‘almost’ all his hope 33–78. (almost all 33:)

August for the people and their favourite islands.

[ *New Verse*, October–November 1935, ‘To a Writer on His Birthday’; LS, ‘XXX/(To Christopher Isherwood)’; OTI; SP 1938; SP 1940; CSP 1950, ‘Birthday Poem/(To Christopher Isherwood)’ ]

Certainly our city—with the byres of poverty down to

[ *Time and Tide*, 23 May 1936, ‘Europe 1936*; LS, ‘XXXI. EPILOGUE’; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, ‘As We Like It’; CSP 50, ‘Our City’ ]
A STUDY OF W. H. AUDEN'S REVISIONING PROCESS(II): IN Another Time(1940)

Y.S. YAMADA

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The following list is an attempt to show Auden's revising process of the fifty poems included in Another Time, and the second of the intended series of essays.

In the square brackets, periodicals which could not be examined are asterisked; the title of each version of a poem is not given when it is the same as that of the preceding version or versions; as for the Another Time version, if the title is not given, it is to be understood that the poem has only the number in the volume; the abbreviations used are as follows:

- AT = Another Time (Faber & Faber, 1940)
- CP = Collected Poetry (Random House, 1945)
- CSP = Collected Shorter Poems: 1930–1944 (Faber & Faber, 1950) or Collected Shorter Poems: 1927–1957 (Faber & Faber, 1966)
- SP = W. H. Auden: A Selection (Penguin Books, 1958) or Selected Poetry (Faber & Faber, 1968)

In the list of variants, every verbal change is marked with an asterisk; each version is represented by the date of its publication; the double quotation marks used either in the first appearances in the periodicals or in the 1945 collection are treated throughout as identical with the single ones employed in all the other volumes by Auden.

I am especially grateful to Professor Edward Mendelson of the Yale University, Literary Executor of the Estate of the late W. H. Auden, for his kind permission to quote freely from the work of the poet, and for his continuous encouragement. In the present essay I am as greatly indebted as in the last article to W. H. Auden: A Bibliography 1924–1969 (the University Press of Virginia, 1972) edited by B. C. Bloomfield and Edward Mendelson.

Y.S.Y.

Addendum to “In Memory of Sigmund Freud” (pp. 36-38): The chronological order of composition of the Kenyon Review and the Horizon versions cannot easily be established. The publication date of the periodicals seems to suggest that the KR version was the first. But the KR version agrees with the AT version in 14 places, whereas the H version agrees with it in 11 places. (And the KR and the H versions agree with each other, and disagree with the AT version, in 24 places.) So it seems difficult to determine which was evolved from which. One inference might be that Auden copied each version from his MS. version, revising independently on each occasion, and that the AT version was evolved from the two preceding versions.
PART I:

People and Places

I: Wrapped in a yielding air, beside

[New Writing, Autumn 1937*; AT; CP, 'As He Is'; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'Able at Times to Cry'; CSP 1966, 'As He Is'; SP 1968]

9 *Beneath the hot incurious sun, 40-58: /Beneath the hot unasking sun, 66, 68.
12 and bible, 40, 45: and Bible, 50: and bible, 58: and Bible, 66, 68.
19 *The Brothered-One, 40-50: The Bothered-One, 58: The Brothered-One, 66, 68.
26 to his dull spirits 40-58: to his dull spirits, 66, 68.

31-32 *The tall and gorgeous tower,
    Gorgeous but locked, but locked. 40-50:
    The tall impressive tower,
    Impressive, yes, but locked. 58:
    The tall imposing tower,
    Imposing, yes, but locked. 66, 68.

35 *Upon the stool of madness set 40-58: /Upon the stool of mania set 66, 68.
41 *Determined on Time's honest shield 40-58:
    Determined on Time's truthful shield 66, 68.

II: Law, say the gardeners, is the sun,

[AT; CP, 'Law Like Love'; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966]

5 of the old 40-58: of the old, 66.
19 scholars write; 40-50: scholars write: 58: scholars write; 66.
25 Law is Good-morning and Good-night. 40, 45:
    Law is Good morning and Good night. 50-66.
29 Law is no more 40-58: / Law is no more, 66.
31 angry crowd 40-58: angry crowd, 66.
32 and very loud 40-58: and very loud, 66.
36 about the law, 40-58: about the Law, 66.
41 That the law is 40-58: That the Law is 66.
50/51 (paragraph space) 40: (no paragraph space) 45-66.
57 where or why 40-58: where or why, 66.
VIII: They are our past and our future: the poles between which our desire unceasingly is discharged.

['Prologue' to Our Hunting Fathers (written for performance in September 1936); AT, 'The Creatures'; CP; CSP 1950]

(The AT version agrees with the subsequent versions.)

IV: Here are all the captivities; the cells are as real:

[Listener, 21 July 1937, 'Hegel and the School-children'; AT, 'Schoolchildren'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

(All the initial capitalizations are discarded in the 1966 version except where the sentences, six in number, begin at the head of lines.)

2 we know, 37: we know 40–50: we know, 66.
5 *For they dissent 37–50: For these dissent 66. so little; 37: so little, 40–66.
6 *With the dumb play of the dog, the licking and rushing; 37–50: (rushing. 37:) with the dumb play of dogs, with licking and rushing; 66.
10 of a vision; 37–50: of a vision, 66.
13 *But watch them: ah, set 37: But watch them, O, set 40–50: But watch them, set 66.
14 *The almost neuter, the slightly awkward perfection; 37–50: their almost neuter, their slightly awkward perfection; 66.
15 is broken 37: is broken, 40–50: is broken: 66.
16 *The dream of the don is not true. 37: The professor's dream is not true. 40–66. (the 66.)
18 *upon the fountain; 37: upon the fountain, 40–50: upon a fountain, 66.
*shed in the corner; 37: shed in the corner, 40–50: wept in a corner, 66.

V: Nature is so near: the rooks in the college garden


1 *Nature is so near. The rooks in the college garden, 38:
Nature is so near: the rooks in the college garden 40–50:
Nature invades: old rooks in each college garden 66.
2 *Like agile babies, still speak the language of feeling; 38:
Like agile babies still speak the language of feeling; 40–50:
Still talk, like agile babies, the language of feeling, 66.
3 *By the tower the river still runs to the sea and will do; 38:
By the tower the river still runs to the sea and will run, 40-50:
By towers a river still runs coastward and will run, 66.
4 *The stones in that tower are utterly 38:
And the stones in that tower are utterly 40-50:
Stones in those towers are utterly 66.
6 *And the minerals and creatures, so deeply in love with their lives 38-50: (lives, 38:)
Mineral and creature, so deeply in love with themselves 66.
11-30 *O in these quadrangles where Wisdom honours herself
Does the original stone merely echo that praise
Shallowly, or utter a bland hymn of comfort,
The founder's equivocal blessing
On all who worship Success?

Promising to the sharp sword all the glittering prizes,
The cars, the hotels, the service, the boisterous bed,
Then power to silence outrage with a testament,
The widow's tear forgotten,
The fatherless unheard.

Whispering to chauffeurs and little girls, to tourists and dons,
That Knowledge is conceived in the hot womb of Violence
Who in a late hour of apprehension and exhaustion
Strains to her weeping breast
That blue-eyed darling head.

And is that child happy with his box of lucky books
And all the jokes of learning? Birds cannot grieve:
Wisdom is a beautiful bird; but to the wise
Often, often is it denied
To be beautiful or good.

(Four stanzas, cut) 66.

(11 herself, 38: herself 40-50.) (13 Shallowly? or 38: Shallowly, or 40-50.)
(15 success? 38: Success? 40-50.) (17 *boistrous 38: boisterous 40-50.)
(18 Outrage 38: outrage 40-50.)
(23 Who, 38: Who 40-50. exhaustion, 38: exhaustion 40-50.)
(26 books, 38: books 40-50.) (27 grieve, 38: grieve: 40-50.)
(28 bird, 38: bird; 40-50.)
31 *Without are the shops, the works, the whole green county 38-50: (county, 38:)
Outside, some factories, then a whole green county 66.
32 *Where a cigarette comforts the guilty and a kiss the weak; 38-50: (guilty, 38:)
Where a cigarette comforts the evil, a hymn the weak, 66.
33 *There thousands fidget, and poke, and spend their money. 38:
There thousands fidget and poke and spend their money: 40-50:
Where thousands fidget and poke and spend their money: 66.
36–40 *Ah, if that thoughtless almost natural world
Would snatch his sorrow to her loving sensual heart!
But he is Eros and must hate what most he loves;
And she is of Nature; Nature
Can only love herself. 38–50: (one stanza, cut) 66.

(36 *Ah, that that thoughtless, almost-natural world 38:) (37 heart. 38:)
40/41 *And all the lanes of his wish twist down to the grave:
The lovers poisoned in a fabulous embrace,
The doomed comrades riding to their known destruction,
The flags like a third sex,
And the music nobilmente. 38:

(the penultimate stanza of the Listener version, cut) 40–
41 *Yes, over this talkative city 38: And over the talkative city 40–50:
And over this talkative city 66.
42 of Death 38: of death 40–66.
43 love. And 38: love: And 40–50: love, and 66.
44–45 *The low unflattering voice / That rests not 38–50:
A low unflattering voice / That sleeps not 66.

VI: No one, not even Cambridge, was to blame;

1 to blame; 39, 40: to blame 66.
2 Blame, if you like, the human situation 39:
—Blame if you like the human situation— 40:
(Blame if you like the human situation): 66.
4 *The leading classic of his generation. 39, 40:
The Latin Scholar of his generation. 66.
7 *Food was his candid love, his secret lust 39:
Food was his public love, his private lust 40, 66.
9 In savage footnotes 39, 40: In savage foot-notes 66.
10 the life he led, 39: the life he led. 40: the life he led, 66.
13 *Where purely geographical divisions 39, 40:
Where only geographical divisions 66.

VII: Left by his friend to breakfast alone on the white
[Times Literary Supplement, 25 March 1939*; AT, ‘Edward Lear’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
(The AT version completely agrees with the subsequent versions.)

VIII: It’s farewell to the drawing-room’s civilised cry,
[Listener, 17 February 1937, ‘Song for the New Year’; AT; CP, ‘Danse Macabre’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
1 *civilised cry 37: civilised cry, 40, 45: civilized cry, 50: mannerly cry, 66.
3 *social aplomb 37: social aplomb, 40-50: polished aplomb, 66.
6 and remarkable fairies 37: and remarkable fairies, 40-66.
7 *the fragible wares 37: the fragible wares 40-66.
9 and arisen 37: and arisen, 40-66.
10 out of prison 37: out of prison, 40-66.
13-14 *he walks abroad / He stands on the bridge, 37:
he walks abroad, / He stands by the bridge, 40-66.
15 he flies overhead 37: he flies overhead, 40-66.
16 *He hides in the cupboards 37: He hides in the cupboard 40-66.
17-24 *Assuming such shapes as may best disguise
The hate that burns in his big blue eyes;
He may be a baby that croons in its pram,
Or a dear old grannie boarding a tram.

A plumber, a doctor, for he has skill
To adopt a serious profession at will;
Superb at ice-hockey, a prince at the dance,
He's fierce as the tigers, secretive as plants. 37, 40:

(the fifth and sixth stanzas, cut) 45-66.

(18 eyes 37: eyes; 40.) 19 pram 37: pram, 40.) 20 tram; 37: tram. 40.)
26 drag you low, 37: drag you low; 40-66.
28 *and cut off your marvellous hair. 37: and cut off your beautiful hair. 40-66.
31 are unsound 37: are unsound: 40-66.
33 am the fortunate one, 37: am the Fortunate One, 40-66.
34 *The Happy-go-Lucky, the spoilt third son; 37:
The Happy-Go-Lucky, the spoilt Third Son; 40-66.
35 the Devil to chase, 37: the Devil to chase 40-66.
38 and slick Gomorrah, 37: and slick Gomorrah; 40-66.
41 The buying, and selling, 37: The buying and selling, 40-66.
46 *I shall have caviare 37, 40: I shall have caviar 45-66.
thick on my bread 37: thick on my bread, 40-66.
49 *I shall ride on the front in a platinum car, 37:
I shall ride the parade in a platinum car, 40-66.
50 *My features shall shine, 37-50: My features will shine, 66.
*my name shall be star, 37: my name shall be Star, 40-50: my name will be Star, 66.
51 Day long and night long 37: Day-long and night-long 40-66.
the bells I shall peal 37; the bells I shall peal, 40–66.
52 I shall turn the cart wheel. 37; I shall turn the cartwheel. 40–66.
53 *So Little John, Long John, Polly and Peg, 37:
   So Little John, Long John, Peter and Paul, 40–66.
54 *And poor little Horace with only one leg, 37:
   And poor little Horace with only one ball, 40–66.
55 *You must leave your breakfast, your desk, and your play 37:
   You shall leave your breakfast, your desk and your play 40–66.
57 and drum, 37: and drum 40–66.
58 to come: 37: to come; 40–66.
59 *The graves shall fly open 37–50: The graves will fly open 66.
   *and suck you all in 37: and let you all in, 40–66.
60 *And the earth shall be emptied of mortal sin. 37–50:
   And the earth be emptied of mortal sin. 66.
63 shoots its warning cry 37: shoots its warning cry: 40–66.
64 but mankind must die.’ 37: but Mankind must die.’ 40–66.

IX: Perhaps I always knew what they were saying:
(S and L stand for the Spectator and the Life and Letters Today versions respectively.)
2 *Even the early messengers who walked S–50:
   Even those early messengers who walked 66.
7 *Love was a word they never said aloud S, L:
   Love was the word they never said aloud 40–66.
8 *As something that a picture can’t return. S–50:
   As nothing that a picture can return. 66.
13 to say “Too Late:” S: to say “Too Late”: L: to say Too Late: 40–66.
20/21 (no paragraph space) S, L: (paragraph space) 40–66.
21/22 (paragraph space) S, L: (no paragraph space) 40–66.

X: Wandering the cold streets tangled like old string,
1 *Wandering the cold streets 39–50: Wandering through cold streets 66.
2 *Coming on fountains silent in the frost, 39–50:
   Coming on fountains rigid in the frost, 66.
3 *The city still escapes you: it has lost 39:
   The city still escapes you; it has lost 40–50:
   Its formula escapes you; it has lost 66.
4 *The qualities that say: 'I am a Thing'. 39:
The qualities that say 'I am a Thing'. 40–50:
The certainty that constitutes a thing. 66.

5–6 *Only the homeless and the really humbled
Seem to be sure exactly where they are, 39–50:
Only the old, the hungry and the humbled
Keep at this temperature a sense of place, 66.

7 *And in their suffering are all assembled; 39:
And in their misery are all assembled; 40–66.

8 *The winter holds them like the Opera. 39–50:
The winter holds them like an Opera-House. 66.

9 *Like alps the rich apartments tower to-night, 39:
Ridges of rich apartments rise to-night 40–50: (tonight 45:)
Ridges of rich apartments loom to-night 66.

glow like farms; 39: glow like farms: 40–50: glow like farms, 66.

11 like a van; 39: like a van, 40–66.

12 the history of man; 39: the history of man, 40–66.

13 *will earn the stranger right 39–50: will earn a stranger right 66.

14 *To warm the heartless city in his arms. 39–50.
To take the shuddering city in his arms. 66.

XI: The nights, the railway-arches, the bad sky,

[New Writing, Spring 1939, 'Rimbaud'; AT, 'Rimbaud'; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958;
CSP 1966]

1 the railway arches, 39: the rail-way arches, 40–66.

2 His horrible companions, 39: His horrible companions 40–66.

5 *Drink, bought him by his weak and lyric friend, 39:
Drinks bought him by his weak and lyric friend 40–66.

6 *His senses systematically deranged, 39–58:
His five wits systematically deranged, 66.

7 *To all accepted nonsense put an end, 39:
To all accustomed nonsense put an end; 40–66.

10–11 Integrity was not enough—that seemed
The hell of childhood; he must try again: 39:
Integrity was not enough; that seemed
The hell of childhood: he must try again. 40–66.

12 *Now, galloping in Africa, he dreamed 39:
Now, galloping through Africa, he dreamed 40–66.

13 *Of a new self, a son, the engineer, 39:
Of a new self, the son, the engineer, 40–50:
Of a new self, a son, an engineer, 58, 66.
XII: Hell is neither here nor there

[Harper's Bazaar, January 1940, 'Hell'*. AT; CP, 'Hell'; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966]

1 nor there 40-58: nor there, 66.
2 Hell is not anywhere 40-58: /Hell is not anywhere, 66.
20 *It would be easy then to weep, 40-50:
   It would be then de trop to weep, 58, 66.

XIII: Towards the end he sailed into an extraordinary mildness,

[Southern Review, Autumn 1939, 'Herman Melville*; AT, 'Herman Melville (For Lincoln Kirstein)'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

6 that was the new knowledge 40-50: that was the new knowledge. 66.
21 and is almost perfect 40-50: and is almost perfect, 66.
32/33 (paragraph space) 40-50: (no paragraph space) 66.
39 *But now he cried in exultation and surrender 40-50:
   Reborn, he cried in exultation and surrender 66.
40 We are the pieces.’ 40, 45: We are the pieces. 50: We are the pieces.’ 66.

XIV: Quarter of pleasures where the rich are always waiting,


   *where the lovers eat each other, 39-50: where lovers eat each other, 58, 66.
4 *Café where exiles establish a malicious village: 39:
   Café where exiles have established a malicious village; 40-50:
   Café where exiles have established a malicious village: 58, 66.
5 *You with your charm and your apparatus abolish 39:
   You with your charm and your apparatus have abolished 40-66.
7 the outraged punitive father ; 39: the outraged punitive father, 40-66.
9 *But with orchestras and glances, O, you betray us 39:
   Yet with orchestras and glances, O, you betray us 40-50:
   So with orchestras and glances, soon you betray us 58, 66.
10 in our infinite powers : 39: in our infinite powers; 40-66.
12 *Victim to the heart's invisible fury. 39:
   Victim to the heart's invisible furies. 40-50:
   Victim to his heart's invisible furies. 58, 66.
13 you hide away the appalling : 39: you hide away the appalling; 40-66.
15 Like collars or chairs; 39: Like collars or chairs, 40-66.
17 But the sky you illumine ; 39: But the sky you illumine, 40-66.
18 *the enormous, the frozen; 39: the enormous, the frozen, 40-58: enormous and frozen, 66.
XV: The hour-glass whispers to the lion’s paw,

[AT; CP, ‘Our Bias’; CSP 1950; SP 1958: CPS 1966]

1 *to the lion’s paw, 40–50: to the lion’s roar, 58, 66.
2 day and night, 40–58: day and night 66.
7 *Has never put the lion off his leap 40–50:
   Has never put one lion off his leap 58, 66.
8 *Nor shaken the assurance of the rose. 40–50:
   Nor shaken the assurance of a rose. 58, 66.

XVI: O had his mother, near her time, been praying

[Southern Review, Autumn 1939, ‘Pascal’*; Life and Letters Today, January 1940; AT, ‘Pascal’; CP; CSP 1950] (L stands for the Life and Letters Today version below.)

1 his mother near her time L: his mother, near her time, 40–50.
2 and prayed too long L: and prayed too long? 40–50.
3 she grew stiff like wood, L: she grew stiff like wood; 40–50.
6 *And in her trance she renegotiated L:
   And in a trance she re-negotiated 40–50.
7 *which L: that 40–50.
8 as the price for life? L: as the price for life 40–50.
10 towards the lives in refuge L: towards the lives in refuge, 40–50.
11 to the moonstruck jeering neighbours L: to the moon-struck jeering neighbours 40–50.
13 *Uneasily against their native judgement L:
   Uneasily, against their native judgment, 40–50.
15 *From all the gates of the protective town L:
   From every gate of the protective town 40–50.
17 were excluded, L: were excluded; 40–50.
18 *His back was turned to no one but herself L:
   His back was turned on no one but herself 40–50.
20 as they screamed “Be Angry” L: as they screamed ‘Be Angry’, 40–50.
22 *Who raised their heads from grazing: even ploughs L:
   Who’d raised their heads from grazing; even ploughs 40–50.
23 were noticed: L: were noticed; 40–50.
26 *Not to look round for comfort shake her faith? L:
   Not to turn round for comfort shake her faith, 40–50.
31 the right to suffer L: the right to suffer, 40–50.
33 Whatever happened he was born deserted L:
   Whatever happened, he was born deserted 40–50.
39 *Ran through a beardless boy L: Ran through the beardless boy 40–50.
48 His misery was real, L: His misery was real. 40–50.
49 *All roads led back into the nightmare garden L:
All dreams led back into the nightmare garden. 40–50.

50 slept, L: slept 40–50.
52 was kneeling L: was kneeling, 40–50.
55 in its abyssal spaces L: in its abyssal spaces, 40–50.
58 *by a gift; L: by a Gift; 40–50.
60 through the caves of accusation L: through the caves of accusation, 40–50.
61 *And in the canyon of distress was able L:
   And even in the canyon of distress was able 40–50.
63 That joy was probable, L: That joy was probable 40–50.
65 *And never told him he was weaker than the others, L:
   And never told him he was different from the others, 40–50.
67 than Descartes L: than Descartes, 40–50.
68 *And made him think it was his own finesse L:
   And let him think it was his own finesse 40–50.
69 That promised him a miracle and L: That promised him a miracle, and 40–50.
70 *Restored the ruined château of his faith; L:
   Restored the ruined château of his faith; 40–50. (chateau 45:)
71 all was ready L: all was ready: 40–50.
77 like Abraham and Jacob L: like Abraham and Jacob, 40–50.
78 like a star L: like a star, 40–50.
79 utterly consumed L: utterly consumed, 40–50.
83 it always meant to reach: L: it always meant to reach; 40–50.
85 *Its step towards the just; L: Its move towards the just, 40–50.
86 *The love which somewhere every day persuades it, L:
   The love that somewhere every day persuades it, 40–50.
92 *Hung now a louder cry than the familiar tune L:
   Now hung a louder cry than the familiar tune 40–50.
95 and deserts L: and deserts, 40–50.

XVII: Perfectly happy now, he looked at his estate.
[Listener, 9 March 1939, ‘Voltaire at Ferney’; Poetry, June 1939; AT, ‘Voltaire at Ferney’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

(L and P stand for the Listener and the Poetry versions respectively.)

   he looked at his estate: L: he looked at his estate. P–66.
   as he passed, L: as he passed P: as he passed, 40–66.
3 where a hospital was rising fast, L, P: where a hospital was rising fast 40–66.
5 *Some of the trees he’d planted were progressing well. L, P:
Some of the trees he'd planned were progressing well. 40–50:
Some of the trees he'd planted were progressing well. 66.

he would write L: He would write, P: He would write 40–66.


*He'd led L: He'd had P: He'd led 40–66.

15 grown-ups; L–50: grown-ups, 66.
and like a child been sly L: and, like a child, been sly P–66.

16 And humble L: And humble, P: And humble 40–66.

18 *But, patient as a peasant, L, P: But patient like a peasant 40–50:

But, patient like a peasant, 66.
waited for their fall: L: waited for their fall. P–66.


20 a great enemy; L: a great enemy, P–66.

22 to count upon; L: to count upon. P–66.

24 and give in L: and give in. P–66.

25–30 Night fell and made him think of women: Lust
Was one of the great teachers; Pascal was a fool.
How Emilie had loved astronomy and bed;
Pimpette had loved him too like scandal; he was glad.
He'd done his share of weeping for Jerusalem: As a rule
It was the pleasure-haters who became unjust. L–40:

(fifth stanza, cut) 45–66.

*Emile L: Emilie P, 40. women. Lust L: women: Lust P, 40.)

Jerusalem; as a rule, L: Jerusalem: As a rule, P: Jerusalem: As a rule 40.)

*Yet, like a sentinel, he could not sleep: the night was full of wrong, L:
Yet, like a sentinel, he could not sleep. The night was full of wrong, P, 40:
So, like a sentinel, he could not sleep. The night was full of wrong, 45–66.


stood the horrible nurses, L: stood the horrible nurses P–66.

Itching to boil their children: only his verses, L:
Itching to boil their children. Only his verses  P–66.

*Perhaps, could stop them; he must go on writing. Overhead L:
Perhaps could stop them: He must go on working: Overhead, P:
Perhaps could stop them: He must go on working. Overhead 40–66.

XVIII: Lay your sleeping head, my love,
XIX: What does the song hope for? And the moved hands


1 *And the moved hands 37–45: And he moved hands 50:
   And his moved hands 66.
5 of the air, 37: of the air; 40–66.

XX: Encased in talent like a uniform,


6 out of his boyish gift, and 39: out of his boyish gift and 40–66.
7 *How to be plain and backward, how to be 39:
   How to be plain and awkward, how to be 40–66.
10 of boredom; 39: of boredom, 40–66.
11 like love; 39: like love, 40–66.
14 *Must suffer dully all the wrongs of man. 39:
   Must suffer dully all the wrongs of Man. 40–50:
   Dully put up with all the wrongs of Man. 66.

XXI: About suffering they were never wrong,

[New Writing, Spring 1939, ‘Palais des Beaux Arts’; AT, ‘Musée des Beaux Arts’;
CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966; SP 1968]

5 How, when the aged are reverently passionately waiting 39:
   How, when the aged are reverently, passionately waiting 40–68.
6 For the miraculous birth there always must be 39:
   For the miraculous birth, there always must be 40–68.
7 Children, who 39: Children who 40–68.
12 with their doggy life, and 39: with their doggy life and 40–68.
13/14 (no paragraph space) 39: (paragraph space) 40–68.
14 *In Breughel’s Icarus, 39: In Brueghel’s Icarus, 40–68.

17–18 the sun shone, / As it had to, on the white legs 39:
the sun shone / As it had to on the white legs 40–68.

21 Had somewhere to get to, and sailed calmly on. 39:
Had somewhere to get to and sailed calmly on. 40–68.

XXII: All the others translate: the painter sketches

4 and connect; 39: and connect. 40–50: and connect, 66.
6 to cover the rift: 39: to cover the rift. 40–66.
9 *Pour out your presence, O delight, cascading 39–50:
Pour out your presence, a delight cascading 66.
10 *The fall of the knee and the weirs of the spine, 39:
The falls of the knee and the weirs of the spine, 40–66.

11–12 *You alone can fly like the bird evading //
The earth; you alone, O imaginary song, 39:
Our climate of silence and doubt invading; //
You alone, alone, O imaginary song, 40–50:
Our climate of silence and doubt invading; //
You alone, alone, imaginary song, 66.

XXIII: Not as that Napoleon, rumour’s dread and centre,

4 *Not as that general favourite and breezy visitor 40–50:
Nor as that general favourite and breezy visitor 66.
26/27 (paragraph space) 40: (no paragraph space) 45–66.

XXIV: Where do They come from? Those whom we so much dread
[Atlantic Monthly, September 1939, ‘Crisis’; Horizon, January 1940; AT; CP, ‘Crisis’; CSP 1950]

“Of my sowing such straw I reap. O human folk, why set the heart there where exclusion of partnership is necessary?” Purgatorio XIV. 85–87. 39, H:
(Inscription, cut) 40–50.
1 come from, those whom 39, H: come from? Those whom 40–50.
dread, 39, H: dread 40–50.
3 *Of their crooked wing 39, H: Of the crooked wing 40: Of their crooked wing 45, 50.
4 *The melting friend, the aqueduct, the flower? 39, H:
The melting friend, the aqueduct, the flower. 40–50.
6 *Back at the married, 39, H: Back at the famous, 40–50.
12 *And upon us their hate is directed. 39, H:
   And towards us their hate is directed. 40–50.
25 or the wise, 39, H: or the wise 40–50.
33 *They arrive already adroit, having learnt 39, H:
   They arrive, already adroit, having learned 40–50.
42 The bed is prepared; 39–45: The bed is prepared, 50.
43 *and clumsy bridegroom, 39, H: and clumsy bridgeroom, 40 (apparently a misprint):
   and clumsy bridegroom, 45, 50.
47 *and summons 39, H: but summons 40–50.
52 and licking; but we have 39, H: and licking; but we have 40–50.

XXV: A nondescript express in from the South,
[New Writing, Spring 1939, 'Gare du Midi'; AT, 'Gare du Midi'; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966]
   1 the south; 39: the South, 40–66.
   2 barrier; 39: barrier, 40–66.
   4 *Bugles or brass: 39: Bugles or braid: 40–66.
   5 *Disturbs the stray look 39: Distracts the stray look 40–66.
   6 *Snow is falling; clutching his little case, 39.

   Snow is falling. Clutching a little case, 40–66.

XXVI: As I walked out one evening,
   5 by the brimming river, 38: by the brimming river 40–68.
   6 I heard a lover sing, 38: I heard a lover sing 40–68.
   9 I'll love you, dear, 38–45: I'll love you, dear, 50: I'll love you, dear, 58:
   'I'll love you, dear, 66, 68.
   10 meet, 38: meet 40: meet, 45–68.
   11 over the mountain, 38: over the mountain 40–68.
   12 in the street. 38–58: in the street, 66, 68.
   13 I'll love you 38–45: I'll love you 50: I'll love you 58: I'll love you 66, 68.
   14 to dry, 38: to dry 40: to dry, 45: to dry 50: to dry, 58: to dry 66, 68.
   17 like rabbits, 38: like rabbits 40: like rabbits, 45–68.
   19 *The flower of the ages, 38: / The Flower of the Ages 40: /
   The Flower of the Ages, 45–68.
   20 of the world. 38: of the world. 40–68.
   21 *But all the clocks of the city 38: / But all the clocks in the city 40–68.
   23 O let not 38: 'O let not 40–68.
“In the burrows 38: In the burrows 40: ‘In the burrows 45–68.
In headaches 38–45: ‘In headaches 50–68.
Into many a green valley 38–45: / ‘Into many a green valley 50–68.
O plunge your hands 38–45: ‘O plunge your hands 50–68.
Stare, stare in the basin, 38: / Stare, stare in the basin 40–68.
Where the beggars raffle 38–45: ‘Where the beggars raffle 50–68.
the bank-notes, 38: the banknotes 40–68.
*And the Lily-white Boy is a roarer, 38:
And the Lily-white Boy is a Roarer 40:
And the Lily-white Boy is a Roarer, 45–68.
late in the evening, 38–50: late in the evening 58: late in the evening, 66, 68.
The lovers, they were gone; 38: / The lovers they were gone; 40–68.
their chiming, 38: their chiming 40: their chiming, 45–68.

XXVII: His gift knew what he was—a dark disordered city;
[Listener, 14 September 1939, ‘Matthew Arnold’; Nation, 30 September 1939; AT, ‘Matthew Arnold’; CP; CSP 1950]
2 sky, L, N: sky; 40–50.
3 protectively L, N: protectively, 40–50.
4 *Spread the haphazard alleys of the neighbours' pity. L:
Spread the haphazard alleys of the neighbors' pity. N:
Stood the haphazard alleys of the neighbour's pity. 40–50.
5 Yet L, N: ——Yet 40–50.
10 “I am my father's forum, and he shall be heard; L, N:
'I am my father's forum and he shall be heard, 40–50.
12 till it died. L, N: till it died, 40–50.

XXVIII: Steep roads, a tunnel through the downs are the approaches;
1 *through the downs, 37: through the downs 40–50: through chalk downs, 66.
4 *Has, somewhere inland, 37–50: Has, inland somewhere, 66.
6 *No, the dominant Norman castle floodlit at night 37:
But the dominant Norman castle floodlit at night 40–50:
A Norman castle, dominant, flood-lit at night, 66.
7 *And the trains that fume in the station built on the sea 37–50:
Trains which fume in a station built on the sea, 66.
8 of its regular life. 37: of its regular life: 40–66.
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10 are 37: are, 40–50: are 66.
11 *Whom the ships carry in and out between the lighthouses 37–50:
   Whom ships carry in or out between the lighthouses, 66.
14–15 *Within these breakwaters English is spoken; without
   Is the immense improbable atlas.
   Within these breakwaters English is properly spoken,
   Outside an atlas of tongues. 37–50:
16 on the sea 37: on the sea, 40–66.
17 *To conjure their special fates from the impersonal water: 37–50:
   Conjuring destinies out of impersonal water: 66.
20 *money.' 37: Money.' 40–66.
21 And, filled with the tears of the beaten, or calm with fame, 37:
   And filled with the tears of the beaten or calm with fame, 40–50:
   Red after years of failure or bright with fame, 66.
22 *The eyes of the returning thank the historical cliffs: 37–50:
   The eyes of homecomers thank these historical cliffs: 66.
23 **The heart has at last ceased to lie and the clock to accuse. 37:
   'The heart has at last ceased to lie, and the clock to accuse; 40–50:
   'The mirror can no longer lie nor the clock reproach; 66.
24 at the children's party 37–50: at the children's party, 66.
25 *Everything will be explained.' 37–50: / Everything must be explained.' 66.
26 *And the old town with its keep and its Georgian houses 37–50:
   The Old Town with its Keep and Georgian houses 66.
27 *Has built its routine on these unusual moments. 37:
   Has built its routine upon these unusual moments; 40–50:
   Has built its routine upon such unusual moments; 66.
28–30 *The vows, the tears, the slight emotional signals
   Are here eternal and unremarkable gestures
   Like ploughing or soldiers' songs:
   Vows, tears, emotional farewell gestures,
   Are common here, unremarkable actions
   Like ploughing or a tipsy song. 37–50: (30 songs. 37:)
29 31 *The soldiers swarm in the pubs in their pretty clothes, 37:
   Soldiers who swarm in the pubs in their pretty clothes, 40–50:
   Soldiers crowd into the pubs in their pretty clothes, 66.
32 *As fresh and silly as girls 37–50: As pink and silly as girls 66.
   from a high-class academy. 37: from a high-class academy: 40–50:
   from a high-class academy; 66.
The Lion, the Rose, the Crown will not ask them to die. The Lion, the Rose, the Crown will not ask them to die. The Lion, the Rose, the Crown, will not ask them to die.

Not now, not here. All. Not here, not now. All. Not here, not now: all.

Their pauper civilian future. / A pauper civilian future.

Above them, expensive and lovely as a rich child’s toy, The aeroplanes fly in the new European air, Above them, expensive, shiny as a rich boy’s bike, Aeroplanes drone through the new European air.

of that air: of a sky.

of little importance.

of a cooling star.

of a cooling star, of a cooling star.

High over France, High over France: High over France,

the full moon, a full moon.

flatterers we meet and love.

When we are utterly wretched:

returns our stare:

The night has many recruits; for thousands of pilgrims.

The night has found many recruits; to thousands of pilgrims.

And the cry of the gulls at dawn is sad like work:

The cries of the gulls at dawn are sad like work:

for the soldier.

for the soldier: for the soldier,

Each one prays.

for himself in the dusk, in a similar way for himself:

and neither: but neither.

Controls the years. Some are temporary heroes.

Controls the years. Some are temporary heroes:

Controls the years or the weather. Some may be heroes.

Some of these people are happy. Not all of us are unhappy.

Warm are the still and lucky miles,
Now greenly falls in learned shade 58:
Now greenly falls the learned shade 66.
11 *The lost are born 40-58: The lost are borne 66.
13 *In the fire of praising 40-58: In a fire of praising 66.
15 *The life-day long 40-58: Our life-day long 66.

XXX: For us like any other fugitive,
[AT; CP, 'Another Time'; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966]
8 Lost if they could in history. 40:
Lost, if they could, in history. 45-66.
19 or liked a lie, 40-58: or liked a lie: 66.

XXXI: Underneath the leaves of life,
[New Republic, 26 July 1939, 'The Leaves of Life'; New Writing, Christmas 1939*; AT; CP, 'The Riddle'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
(39 designates the New Republic version below.)
5 *the single stag 39-50: a single stag 66.
8 *While from thickets round about 39:
And from thickets round about 40-50:
While from thickets round about 66.
11 *And the birds fly in and out 39-50:
And small birds fly in and out 66.
13 *from the ridge, 39-50: from a ridge, 66.
16 *towards the little bridge: 39-50: towards a little bridge: 66.
17 *Even politicians speak 39-50:
Even orators may speak 66.
22 these Two-in-One 39: these two-in-one 40-66.
34 fall, 39: fall 40-50: fall, 66.
50 in your eyes, 39: in your eyes 40-66.
PART II:
Lighter Poems

I: Sharp and silent in the
[AT; CP, 'Heavy Date'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
12 Like a rendez-vous, 40: / Like a rendezvous, 45-66.
25-56 *So I pass the time, dear,
Till I see you, writing
Down whatever nonsense
Come into my head;
Let the life that has been
Lightly buried in my
Personal Unconscious
Rise up from the dead.

Why association
Should see fit to set a
Bull-dog by a trombone
On a grassy plain
Littered with old letters,
Leaves me simply guessing,
I suppose it's La Con-
dition Humaine.

As at lantern lectures
Image follows image;
Here comes a steam-roller
Through an orange grove,
Driven by a nursemaid
As she sadly mutters:
'Zola, poor old Zola
Murdered by a stove.'

Now I hear Saint Francis
Telling me in breezy
Tones as we are walking
Near a power-house:
'Loving birds is easy,
Any fool can do it,
But I must admit it's
Hard to love the louse.' 40 : (four stanzas, cut) 45-66.

65-72 *As an intellectual
Member of the Middle
Classes or what-have-you
So I have to dream:
Essence without Form is
Free but ineffectual,
Birth and education
Guide the living stream. 40 : (one stanza, cut) 45-66.

80 there. 40-50 : there: 66.

145-152 *I should love to go on
Telling how I love you,
Thanking you for happy
Changes in my life,
But it would be silly
Seeing that you know it
And that any moment
Now you may arrive. 40 : (one stanza, cut) 45-66.

II: Three Ballads:

1: Let me tell you a little story

[New Writing, Autumn 1937*; AT, ‘Miss Gee’; CP, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces,
XII (Tune: St. James’ Infirmary)’; CSP 1950; SP 1958, ‘Miss Gee. A Ballad’; CSP
1966, ‘Miss Gee’]

22 And said: 40-58 : And said, 66.
10 dark-grey 40, 45 : dark grey 50-66.
50 on her knees; 40-50 : on her knees: 58 : on her knees; 66.
68 a funny thing. 40-50 : a funny thing.’ 58 : a funny thing. 66.
69-76 *‘Nobody knows what the cause is.
Though some pretend they do;
It’s like some hidden assassin
Waiting to strike at you.

‘Childless women get it,
And men when they retire;
It’s as if there had to be some outlet
For their foiled creative fire.’ 40-50 : (two stanzas, cut) 58 :
(recovered) 66.
79 He said; 40, 45 : He said: 50-66.
66 waiting to ring; 40-58 : waiting to ring, 66.
67 into pellets, 40-58: into pellets; 66.
80 *And she's a goner, I fear.' 40: / And she's a goner, I fear.' 45-66.
87 And Mr. Rose 40-50: And Mr Rose 58: And Mr. Rose 66.
89 Mr. Rose 40-50: Mr Rose 58: Mr. Rose 66.
2: James Honeyman was a silent child
[Ploughshare, November-December 1937*; AT, 'James Honeyman']

3: Victor was a little baby,
[New Writing, Autumn 1937; AT, 'Victor'; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces,
XXXVI (Tune: Frankie & Johnny)'; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'Victor. A Ballad'; CSP 1966,
'Victor']

1 baby 37: baby, 40-66.
2 he came, 37: he came; 40-66.
3 *on his knees 37: on his knee 40-66.
4/5 *Have mercy, Lord, save our souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
5 at his father, 37: at his father 40-66.
6 *Looked up with his big round eyes, 37: / Looked up with big round eyes: 40-66.
7 *Father said: 37: His father said: 40: His father said; 45-66.
8 ever, ever 37: ever ever 40-66.
8/9 *Have mercy, Lord, save your soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
11 *Father took the Bible 37: His father took a Bible 40-66.

and read 37: and read: 40: and read; 45: and read, 50: and read; 58: and read, 66.
12 the pure in Heart.' 37: the pure in heart.' 40-66.
12/13 *Have mercy, Lord, save their souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
13-20 (two stanzas, cut) 58: (recovered) 66.
14 for fruits, 37: for fruits; 40-66.
15 *Father dropped dead 37: His father fell dead 40-66.
16/17 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
18 he sank, 37: he sank; 40-66.
20/21 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
21 December, 37: December 40-66.
22 only eighteen 37: only eighteen, 40-66.
23 *But his margins were straight and his figures neat 37:

But his figures were neat and his margins straight 40-66.
24/25 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
25 at the Peveril 37: at the Peveril, 40-66.
28/29 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40-66.
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29 on the shoulder, 37: on the shoulder; 40–66.
30 they said. 37: they said, 40–66.
32/33 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
33 The Manager sat 37: The manager sat 40–66.
34 a Corona cigar, 37: a Corona cigar: 40–66.
   a decent fellow, but 37: a decent fellow but 40–66.
36/37 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
38 *Set his alarum bell, 37: / Set the alarum bell; 40–66.
40/41 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
41 It was the first of April 37: It was the First of April, 40–66.
42 came, 37: came; 40–66.
44/45 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
45–46 *Her skin was like cream from the dairy,
   Her scent was like new-mown hay, 37:
   She looked as pure as a schoolgirl
   On her First Communion day, 40–66. (46 day 50:)
47 *Her kisses 37: But her kisses 40–66.
48/49 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
49 It was the second of April 37: / It was the Second of April, 40–66.
50 a coat of fur, 37: a coat of fur; 40–66.
51 *Victor passed Anna upon the stairs, 37:
   Victor met her upon the stairs 40–66.
52/53 *Have mercy, Lord, save their souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
53 made his proposal 37: made his proposal, 40–66.
54 *She laughed: ‘I shall never wed.’ 37:
   She laughed, said, ‘I’ll never wed’: 40:
   She laughed, said; ‘I’ll never wed’; 45–58:
   She laughed, said; ‘I’ll never wed’: 66.
55 there was a pause, 37, 40: there was a pause; 45–66.
56/57 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
57 *into the mirror 37: into her mirror, 40–66.
58 *Pouted and made a frown, 37:
   Pouted and gave a frown; 40:
   Pouted and gave a frown: 45–66.
59 Said: 37, 40: Said; 45–66. *Victor’s as slow as a wet afternoon 37:
   *Victor’s as dull as a wet afternoon 40–66.
60/61 *Have mercy, Lord, save my soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
62 *They were walking 37: As they walked 40–66.
   *by the Big Reservoir, 37: by the Reservoir, 40: by the Reservoir: 45–66.
61 made his proposal 37: made his proposal, 40–66.


*You're my heart's desire.' 37: 'You are my heart's desire.' 40–66.

64/65 *Have mercy, Lord, save our souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

66 She said: 'Kiss me, 37, 40: She said: 'Kiss me, 45–66.

you funny boy.' 37: you funny boy'; 40: you funny boy': 45–66.

67 and said: 37, 40: and said; 45–66.

68 'O, my Helen of Troy!' 37: / 'O my Helen of Troy.' 40–66.

68/69 *Have mercy, Lord, save our souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

70 *Victor came to the Bank one day, 37:

Victor came to the office one day; 40–66.

71 in his button-hole 37: in his buttonhole, 40–66.

72/73 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

74 just ajar, 37, 40: was just ajar; 40: was just ajar: 45–66.

75 One said: 37, 40: One said; 45–66.

'Poor old Victor but 37: Poor old Victor, but 40–66.


76/77 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

78 was just ajar, 37, 40: was just ajar; 40: was just ajar: 45–66.

79 One said: 37, 40: One said; 45–66.

80/81 *Have mercy, Lord, save my soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

81 *Victor walked into the High Street, 37:

Victor walked out into the High Street, 40–66.

82 of the town, 37: of the town; 40–66.

83 *and rubbish heaps 37: and the rubbish heaps 40–66.

84/85 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

85 at the sunset, 37: at the sunset 40–66.

86 *He stood there all alone, 37: / As he stood there all alone; 40–66.

87 *Said: 'Father, are you in Heaven?' 37:

Cried: 'Are you in Heaven, Father?' 40–58:

Cried: 'Are you in Heaven, Father?' 66.

88 *And the sky said: 'Address not known.' 37:

But the sky said 'Address not known.' 40–66.

88/89 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

89 at the mountains 37: at the mountains, 45–66.


91 Cried: 40: Cried; 45–66.


92/93 *Have mercy, Lord, save your soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

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95 *But the oaks 37: And the oaks 40–66.
96/97 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
98 went sweeping by, 37: went sweeping by: 40–66.
100 But the wind said: 37, 40: But the wind said, 45–58: But the wind said; 66.
100/101 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
102 *Running so deep and still, 37: / Running so deep and so still: 40–66.
103 *Said: 'O Father, 37: Crying: 'O Father, 40: Crying; O Father, 45–58: Cried; 'O Father, 66.
104 answered: 'Kill.' 37, 40: answered, 'Kill.' 45–58: answered; 'Kill'. 66.
104/105 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
105 *Anna sat down at a table 37: / Anna was sitting at table, 40, 45: / Anna was sitting a at table, 50 (apparently a misprint): / Anna was sitting at table, 58: / Anna was sitting at a table, 66.
106 from a pack, 37: from a pack; 40–66.
107 *Anna sat at a table 37: / Anna was sitting at table 40–66.
108/109 *Have mercy, Lord, save his soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
110 at first, 37: at first; 40–66.
112/113 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
114 *Didn't utter a word; 37: / He didn't utter a word; 40: / He didn't utter a word: 45–66.
115 *Anna said: 37: She said: 40: She said; 45–66.
116/117 *Have mercy, Lord, save their souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
 die to-night.' 37, 40: die tonight." 45: die to-night'. 50–66.
120/121 *Have mercy, Lord, save your soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
121 *Victor picked up the carving knife, 37: Victor picked up a carving knife, 40–66.
124/125 *Have mercy, Lord, save your soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.
125 from the table. 37: from the table, 40–66.
128/129 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell.
 She blundered into chairs and tables
 Like a June bug in a room,
 But Victor came slowly after her,
 In his face she read her doom.
 Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line and one stanza, cut) 40–66.
130 *the curtain rod, 37: a curtain rod, 40–66.
131 after her, 37, 40: after her: 45–66.
132 Said: 37–40: Said; 45–66. *'Prepare to meet your God.' 37:
 'Prepare to meet thy God. 40: 'Prepare to meet thy God.' 45–66.
132/133 *Have mercy, Lord, save your soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

134 and she didn’t stop, 37: and she didn’t stop. 40–66.

136/137 *Have mercy, Lord, save her soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

137 above the body 37: above the body, 40–66.

138 holding the knife, 37: holding the knife; 40–66.

139 And the blood ran down the stairs, 37: And the blood ran down the stairs 40–66.

and sang: 37, 40: and sang, 45–58: and sang; 66.

140/141 *Have mercy, Lord, save my soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

142 in a van. 37: in a van; 40–66.

143 *He sat as still as a lump of moss, 37:

He sat as quiet as a lump of moss 40–66.


144/145 *Have mercy, Lord, save my soul from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

146 of clay, 37, 40: of clay: 45–66.

147 *Said: 'I'm Alpha 37: Saying: 'I am Alpha 40: Saying; 'I am Alpha 50–66.

148/ *Have mercy, Lord, save their souls from Hell. 37: (one line, cut) 40–66.

III: Four Cabaret Songs for Miss Hedli Anderson:

1: O the valley in the summer where I and my John


(No difference between the five versions which could be examined.)

2: Some say that Love's a little boy

[AT, 'O Tell Me the Truth About Love'; Harper's Bazaar, April 1940*; CSP 1966, 'Twelve Songs, XII']

1 Love's 40: love's 66. boy 40: boy, 66.

2 *And some say he's a bird, 40: / And some say it's a bird, 66.

3 *Some say he makes the world go round 40:

Some say it makes the world go round 66.

4 that's absurd: 40: that's absurd, 66.

5 *But when I asked the man next door 40:

And when I asked the man next-door, 66.

7 *His wife was very cross indeed 40:

His wife got very cross indeed, 66.

9 like a pair of pyjamas 40: like a pair of pyjamas, 66.

10 in a temperance hotel, 40: in a temperance hotel? 66.

11 of llamas 40: of llamas, 66.

13 as a hedge is 40: as a hedge is, 66.

14 as eiderdown fluff, 40: as eiderdown fluff? 66.
17 *The history books 40: Our history books 66.
19-20 *And it's a common topic on
    The Trans-Atlantic boats; 40:
    It's quite a common topic on
    The Transatlantic boats; 66.
24 of railway guides. 40: of rail-way guides. 66.
25 like a hungry Alsatian 40: like a hungry alsatian, 66.
26 like a military band, 40: like a military band? 66.
27 *Could one give a first-class imitation 40:
    Could one give a first-rate imitation 66.
28 or a Steinway Grand, 40: or a Steinway Grand? 66.
33 inside the summer-house, 40: inside the summer-house; 66.
34 there, 40 : there: 66.
35 *I've tried the Thames at Maidenhead 40:
    I tried the Thames at Maidenhead, 66.
36 bracing air ; 40: bracing air. 66.
37 what the blackbird sang 40: what the blackbird sang, 66.
38 *Or what the roses said, 40: / Or what the tulip said; 66.
39 in the chicken-run 40: in the chicken-run, 66.
42 sick on a swing, 40 : sick on a swing? 66.
43 at the races 40: at the races, 66.
44 pieces of string, 40: pieces of string? 66.
45 about money, 40 : about money? 66.
46 enough, 40 : enough? 66.
49-56 *Your feelings when you meet it, I
    Am told you can't forget,
    I've sought it since I was a child
    But haven't found it yet;
    I'm getting on for thirty-five,
    And still I do not know
    What kind of creature it can be
    That bothers people so. 40 : (one stanza, cut) 66.
58 picking my nose, 40: picking my nose? 66.
59 in the morning 40: in the morning, 66.
60 on my toes, 40 : on my toes? 66.
61 in the weather, 40: in the weather? 66.
62 *Will its greeting be courteous or bluff, 40:
    Will its greeting be courteous or rough? 66.
3: Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,

5 *Let aeroplanes circle 36-45: Let aeroplane circle 50: Let aeroplanes circle 58, 66.
6 the message: He is dead. 36: the message He Is Dead, 40–66.
7 Put crepe bows 36: Put crêpe bows 40–66.
of the public doves. 36: of the public doves, 40–66.
13 The stars are not wanted now: put out every one, 40:
The stars are not wanted now; put out every one: 45, 50.
The stars are not wanted now: put out every one; 58, 66.
14 and dismantle the sun, 40: and dismantle the sun; 45–66.
15 *and sweep up the woods; 40: and sweep up the woods: 45, 50:
and sweep up the wood. 58, 66.

4: Driver, drive faster and make a good run

3 *Fly like the aeroplane, 40: Fly like an aeroplane 66.
8 *I’ll stand on the pavement with tears rolling down. 40:
I’ll stand on the side-walk with tears rolling down. 66.
11 and he says he loves me 40: and he says he loves me, 66.
15 *in the sun-parlor car 40: in the sun-parlor car 66.
17 *If I were the head of the Church or the State 40:
If I were the Head of the Church or the State, 66.

IV: O lurcher-loving collier, black as night,

1 O lurcher-loving collier black as night 38:
O lurcher-loving collier, black as night, 40–66.
3 *Your lamp is out and all your cages still; 38:
Your lamp is out and all the cages still; 40–58:
Your lamp is out, the cages all are still; 66.
5 *For Sunday soon is passed and Kate, fly not so fast, 38:
For Sunday soon is past and, Kate, fly not so fast, 40–66.
6 when none may kiss—— 38: when none may kiss: 40–66.
7 Be marble to his soot and 38: Be marble to his soot, and 40–66.

V: Over the heather the wet wind blows,
Songs, XI'; SP 1968, 'Roman Wall Blues']
(The AT version agrees with the CP and subsequent versions.)

VI: Perfection, of a kind, was what he was after
[New Statesman & Nation, 31 January 1939*; AT, 'Epitaph on a Tyrant'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
(The AT version agrees with every subsequent version.)

VII: He was found by the Bureau of Statistics to be
[Listener, 3 August 1939, 'The Unknown Citizen'; New Yorker, 6 January 1940*; AT, 'The Unknown Citizen (To JS/07/M/378 This Marble Monument Is Erected by the State)'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

6 Except for the War, 39: Except for the War 40-66.
9 *Yet he was neither a scab nor odd in his views, 39:
   Yet he wasn't a scab or odd in his views, 40-66.
11 *(Our report on his Union says it was sound) 39:
   (Our report on his Union shows it was sound) 40-66.
12-13 *found/He was popular 39: found/That he was popular 40-66.
17 *shows that he was 39: shows he was 40-66.
18 *Both Producer's Research and High Grade Living declare 39:
   Both Producers Research and High-Grade Living declare 40-66.
21 *A radio, a gramophone, a car, and a frigidaire. 39:
   A gramophone, a radio, a car and a frigidaire. 40:
   A phonograph, a radio, a car and a frigidaire. 45-66.
22 *Our investigators into Public Opinion are content 39:
   Our researchers into Public Opinion are content 40-66.
25 to the population 39: to the population, 40-66.

VIII: Say this city has ten million souls,
[New Yorker, 15 April 1939*; New Writing, Christmas 1939; AT, 'Refugee Blues'; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXVIII'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Twelve Songs, I']

4 and we thought it fair. 39: and we thought it fair, 40-66.
5 find it there; 39: find it there: 40-66.
6 *We can never go there now, my dear, we can never go there now. 39:
   We cannot go there now, my dear, we cannot go there now. 40-66.
7-12 *The consul banged the table and said:
   'If you've got no passport, you're officially dead';
   But we are still alive, my dear, but we are still alive.
   Down in the churchyard there stands an old yew,
   Every spring it flowers anew;
   Old passports can't do that, my dear, old passports can't do that. 39:
(the third and the fourth stanzas, inverted) 40–66.

(7 *Down in the churchyard 39(l. 10): In the village churchyard 40–66.
  *stands 39: grows 40–66.)
(8 *flowers anew; 39(l. 11): blossoms anew: 40–66.)
(10 said: 39(l. 7): said; 40–50: said: 66.)
(11 passport, 39(l. 8): passport 40–66. dead’; 39: dead’: 40–66.)
13 offered me a chair, 39: offered me a chair; 40–66.
14 *Told me politely to come back next year; 39:
   Asked me politely to return next year: 40–66.
19 *Heard a noise like thunder rumbling in the sky, 39:
   Thought I heard the thunder rumbling in the sky; 40–66.
20 It was Hitler over Europe saying, ‘They must die!’ 39:
   It was Hitler over Europe, saying: ‘They must die’; 40–66.
21 *O we were in his mind, my dear, O we were in his mind. 39–50:
   We were in his mind, my dear, we were in his mind. 66.
23 *Saw a door open 39: Saw a door opened 40–66.
25 *Went down to the harbour 39: Went down the harbour 40–66.
26 as if they were free; 39: as if they were free: 40–66.
28 *Walked into a wood; there were birds in the trees, 39:
   Walked through a wood, saw the birds in the trees; 40–66.
29 at their ease; 39: at their ease: 40–66.
31 *Dreamt I saw 39: Dreamed I saw 40–66.
33/34 *Ran down to the station to catch the express,
   Asked for two tickets to Happiness;
   But every coach was full, my dear, but every coach was full. 39:
   (the penultimate stanza in the New Writing version, cut) 40–66.
34 in the falling snow, 39: in the falling snow; 40–66.
35 marched to and fro, 39: marched to and fro: 40–66.
PART III:
Occasional Poems

I: Yesterday all the past. The language of size
[May 1937, Spain (a pamphlet published by Faber & Faber); AT, 'Spain 1937'; CP; CSP 1950]

7 of cartwheels 37: Of cart-wheels 40–50.
9 and giants, 37: and giants; 40–50.
12 *Yesterday the carving of angels and alarming gargoyles. 37:
   Yesterday the carving of angels and of frightening gargoyles. 40–50.
17 and turbines, 37: and turbines; 40–50.
21 *Yesterday the belief in the absolute value of Greece, 37:
   Yesterday the belief in the absolute value of Greek; 40–50.
23 to the sunset 37: to the sunset, 40–50.
25 among the pines, 37: among the pines 40–50.
26 Or where the loose waterfall sings, compact, or upright 37:
   Or, where the loose waterfall sings, compact, or upright 40–50.
32 I inquire. I inquire.' 37: I inquire, I inquire.' 40–50.
33 in their fireless lodgings, 37: in their fireless lodgings 40–50.
34 'Our day is our loss, O show us 37: 'Our day is our loss. O show us 40–50.
36 Organiser; 37: Organiser. 40: Organiser, 45: Organizer, 50.
40 *Did you not found the city state of the sponge 37:
   'Did you not found once the city state of the sponge, 40–50.
44 or a mild engineer, 37: or a mild engineer: 40–50.
47 **O no, I am not the mover; 37: 'O no, I am not the Mover, 40–50.
48 Not to-day; 37: Not to-day, 40: Not today, 45: Not to-day, 50.
48–49 To you, I'm the/'Yes-man, 37: To you I'm the/'Yes-man, 40–50.
49 the easily-duped; 37: the easily-duped: 40–50.
50 I am whatever you do. 37: I am whatever you do; 40–50.
51 your humorous story. 37: your humorous story; 40–50.
I am your business voice. 37: I am your business voice; 40-50.

*What's your proposal? To build the just city? I will. 37:

'What's your proposal? To build the Just City? I will. 40-50.

I am your choice, your decision. Yes, I am Spain.' 37:

I am your choice, your decision: yes, I am Spain.' 40-50.

*in the aberrant fisherman's islands 37: in the aberrant fishermen's islands, 40-50.

*Or the corrupt heart of the city, 37: In the corrupt heart of the city; 40-50.

*They clung like birds to the long expresses that lurch 37:

They clung like burrs to the long expresses that lurch 40-50.

*They walked the passes. All presented their lives. 37:

They walked the passes: they came to present their lives. 40-50.

to inventive Europe; 37: to inventive Europe, 40-50.

*Our thoughts have bodies; the menacing shapes of our fever
Are precise and alive. For the fears which made us respond
To the medicine ad. and the brochure of winter cruises
Have become invading battalions;
And our faces, the institute-face, the chain-store, the ruin
Are projecting their greed as the firing squad and the bomb.
Madrid is the heart. Our moments of tenderness blossom
As the ambulance and the sandbag;
Our hours of friendship into a people’s army. 37:
Our fever's menacing shapes are precise and alive. 40-50.

(Nearly two stanzas cut, and one and half a line contracted into a line.)

To-morrow, perhaps the future. The research on fatigue 37:

To-morrow, perhaps, the future: the research on fatigue 40-50. (Tomorrow 45:)

of romantic love, 37: of romantic love; 40-50.

and the musician, 37: and the musician. 40-50.

76/77 *The beautiful roar of the chorus under the dome;
To-morrow the exchanging of tips on the breeding of terriers,
The eager election of chairman
By the sudden forest of hands. But to-day the struggle. 37:

(one stanza, cut) 40-50.

77 To-morrow for the young the poets exploding like bombs, 37, 40:
To-morrow, for the young, the poets exploding like bombs, 45, 50. (Tomorrow 45:)

78 *The walks by the lake, the weeks of perfect communion; 37:
The walks by the lake, the winter of perfect communion; 40-50.

80 on summer evenings. But 37: on summer evenings: but 40-50.

81-82 *To-day the deliberate increase in the chances of death,
The conscious acceptance of guilt in the necessary murder; 37:
To-day the inevitable increase in the chances of death;
The conscious acceptance of guilt in the fact of murder; 40-50.(81 Today 45:)

85 To-day the makeshift consolations: the shared cigarette, 37:
To-day the makeshift consolations; the shared cigarette; 40–50. (Today 45:)
86 in the candlelit barn, 37: in the candle-lit barn 40–50.
89 The stars are dead. The animals will not look. 37:
89 The stars are dead; the animals will not look: 40–50.
90 and the time is short, and 37: and the time is short and 40–50.
92 *May say Alas but cannot help nor pardon. 37:
92 May say Alas but cannot help or pardon. 40–50.

II: He disappeared in the dead of winter:
[New Republic, 8 March 1939, 'In Memory of W. B. Yeats'; London Mercury, April
1939; AT, ‘In Memory of W. B. Yeats (d. Jan. 1939)’; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP
versions respectively below.)

1 (AT, CP: I NR, LM, 50–68)
1 winter. NR: winter: LM–68.
5 *O all the instruments agree NR–50: / What instruments we have agree 58–68.
7 *Far from his illness, NR, LM: / Far from his illness 40–68.
19 to unfamiliar affections; NR–45: to unfamiliar affections, 50:
19 to unfamiliar affections; 58: to unfamiliar affections, 66, 68.
13 and rumours; NR: and rumours: LM: and rumours; 40–68.
18–19 cities/And NR, LM: cities/And 40–68.
20–21 of wood/And NR, LM: of wood/And 40–68.
21 of conscience: NR, LM: of conscience. 40, 45: of conscience; 50:
21 of conscience. 58–68.
24 of tomorrow, NR: of to-morrow, LM: of to-morrow 40–68. (of tomorrow 45:)
27 of his freedom, NR, LM: of his freedom; 40, 45: of his freedom, 50–68.
28 will think of this day, NR: will think of this day LM–68.
29/30 *He was silly like us: His gift survived it all. NR.
(The last line of the fifth stanza in the NR version; recovered, with 'He' and 'His'
changed to 'You' and 'your', and expanded into Part II of the LM and subsequent
versions.)
29/30 (paragraph space) NR–40: (indeterminable) 45: (no paragraph space) 50–68.
30 *O all the instruments agree NR–50: /What instruments we have agree 58–68.

2 (AT, CP: II LM, 50–68.)
(Part II of the NR version becomes Part III of the LM and subsequent versions.)
1 You were silly like us: LM–50: You were silly like us; 58–68.
3 Yourself; mad Ireland LM–50: Yourself; mad Ireland 58:
Yourself. Mad Ireland 66, 68.

6 *In the valley of its saying where executives LM-58: (saying, LM:)
   In the valley of its making where executives 66, 68.
7 *Would never want to tamper; it flows south LM-58:
   Would never want to tamper, flows on south 66, 68.

3: (AT, CP: II NR: III LM, 50–68.)

2 William Yeats is laid to rest: NR–50: / William Yeats is laid to rest. 58–68.
3 Let the Irish vessel lie NR: / Let the Irish vessel lie, LM:
   /Let the Irish vessel lie 40–68.

5–16 *Time that is intolerant
   Of the brave and innocent,
   And indifferent in a week
   To a beautiful physique,

   Worships language and forgives
   Everyone by whom it lives;
   Pardons cowardice, conceit,
   Lay its honours at their feet.

   Time that with this strange excuse
   Pardoned Kipling and his views,
   And will pardon Paul Claudel,
   Pardons him for writing well. NR–50:

   (the second to fourth stanzas, cut) 58–68.
(10 it lives, NR, LM: it lives; 40–50.)
(13 Time that NR: Time, that LM: Time that 40–50.)
(14 *and his views, NR: for his views, LM: and his views, 40–50.)
20 in its hate. NR: in its hate; LM–68.
34 *Let the healing fountains start, NR, LM:
   Let the healing fountain start, 40–68.

III: The shining neutral summer has no voice

[New Yorker, 17 June 1939*; New Writing, Christmas 1939, 'In Memory of Ernst Toller (d. 1939)'; AT, 'In Memory of Ernst Toller (d. May 1939)'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

2 *To judge America or ask why a man dies; 39:
   To judge America, or ask how a man dies; 40–66.
6 *Lest they think they can learn without suffering how to forgive. 39:
   Lest they should learn without suffering how to forgive. 40–66.
8 *O did the child see something horrid in the woodshed 39–50:
Did the child see something horrid in the woodshed?

For just how long,

death outside,

Where people do not travel, occupy, or hide;

The enemy bullet, the sickness, or even our hand.

for whom we mourn, and

IV:

I sit in one of the dives

[New Republic, 18 October 1939, 'September: 1939'; AT, 'September 1, 1939'; CP; CSP 1950, '1st September 1939']

On Fifty-second Street / On Fifty-Second Street:

of the earth,

*odor of death

*the whole offense: the whole offence

at Linz: at Linz.

learn;

*About democracy, / About Democracy,

*Competitive excuse

*In an euphoric dream; / In an euphoric dream

*The music must always play: / The music must always play

*All I have is a voice

To undo the folded lie,

The romantic lie in the brain

Of the sensual man-in-the-street

And the lie of Authority

Whose buildings grope the sky:

There is no such thing as the State

And no one exists alone;

Hunger allows no choice

To the citizen or the police;

We must love one another or die. (the penultimate stanza, cut)
36

\[\text{Man-in-the-street, 39:} \]

\[\text{The lie 39:} \]

\[\text{or the police, 39:} \]

*Defenseless under the night 39: / Defenceless under the night 40–50.

May I, composed like them / Of Eros and of dust, 39:

May I, composed like them / Or Eros and of dust, 40–50.

V: When there are so many we shall have to mourn,

[\text{Kenyon Review, Winter 1940, 'For Sigmund Freud'; Horizon, March 1940, 'In Memory of Sigmund Freud'; AT, 'In Memory of Sigmund Freud (d. Sept. 1939)'; CP; CSP 1950, 'In Memory of Sigmund Freud (d. September 1939)'; SP 1958; CSP 1966}]

(K and H stand for the Kenyon Review and the Horizon versions respectively.)

2 so public H: so public, K–66.

6 some good K, H: some good, 40–66.

7 *And knew K, H–58: who knew 66.

9 Such was this doctor. Still H: Such was this doctor: still K–66.

10 To think of our life H: To think of our life, K–58: to think of our life 66.

12 *With threats and flattery K, H: With threats or flattery 40–66. (with 66.)


13 was denied him; he K, H–58: was denied him. He 66.

14 Upon that last picture K, H–58: upon that last picture, 66.

common to us all K, H: common to us all, 40–66.

15 *Of problems like relatives standing K, H–58:

of problems like relatives gathered 66.

17 *at the very end K, H–58: till the very end 66.

18 *Those he had studied, the nervous and the nights, K, H–58:

those he had studied, the fauna of the night, 66.

21 with their disappointment, K, H: with their disappointment 40–66.

21–22 *as he/Was taken away from his old interest K, H–58:

as he/was taken away from his life interest 66.


25 Only Hate was happy hoping K, H: Only Hate was happy, hoping 40–66.

25–26 *to augment/His practice, K, H: to augment/His practice now, 40–66. (his 66.)

26 *and his shabby clientele K, H: and his shabby clientèle 40–58:

and his dingy clientele 66.


28 *And covering their gardens with ashes. K, H:

And covering the gardens with ashes. 40–66.

29 They are still alive but K, H–58: They are still alive, but 66.

31 *All he did K: All that he did H–66.

33 He wasn't clever at all; K, H: He wasn't clever at all: 40–66.

40 and more humble; H: and more humble. K–58: and more humble, 66.


The co-operation K, H-50: The cooperation 58: the co-operation 66.

they called on God; K, H: they called on God: 40-50: they called on God; 58: they called on God, 66.

but he went his way, K, H-58: but he went his way 66.

*Down among the Lost People like Dante, down K, H-58: down among the lost people like Dante, down 66.


what evil is; H: what evil is: K-58: what evil is, 66.

not as we thought K, H-50: not, as we thought, 58, 66.

*And if something of the autocratic pose, K, H-58:

If some traces of the autocratic pose, 66.

*The parental strictness he distrusted, still K, H:

The paternal strictness he distrusted, still 40-66. (the 66.)


*For one who lived among enemies K, H-58: for one who’d lived among enemies 66.

so long; K, H: so long: 40: so long; 45-58: so long: 66.

and at times absurd, K, H-58: and, at times, absurd, 66.

Now, but K: Now but H-66. (now 66.)


*our differing lives: K, H-50: our differing lives; 58: our different lives: 66.

hinder or help; K, H: hinder or help, 40-66.

A little harder K: A little harder, H-66. (a 66.)

*and the tyrant tries // To make him do K, H-58:

the tyrant tries to // make do with him 66.


*He extends H: He extends, K-58: and extends, 66.

*The remotest most miserable duchy K, H-58: / the remotest miserable duchy 66.

*Are aware of the change K, H: Have felt the change 40-66. (have 66.)

in their bones, K: in their bones H-66.

*and cheered; K, H: and are cheered, 40-66.

*And the child K, H-58: till the child, 66.

*Feels calmer K: Feels calmer now H-66. (feels 66.)


While, as they lie H: While as they lie K-58: while, as they lie 66.

objects, H: objects K-66.


*Are restored to us K: Are returned to us H-66. (are 66.)
Games that we thought we must stop K, H: Games we had thought we must drop games 66. *when we grew up, H: as we grew up, K--66.  

But he wishes us more than this; —to be free H:  
But he wishes us more than this; to be free K--58:  
But he wishes us more than this. To be free 66.  
to be lonely—he H: to be lonely: he K: to be lonely; he 40--58: to be lonely. He 66.  
over the night, K, H: over the night 40--58: over the night, 66.  
*It alone can give, K, H: It alone has to offer, 40--66. (it 66.)  
*our love. For with sad eyes K: our love; for with sad eyes H:  
our love: for with sad eyes 40--58: our love. With large sad eyes 66.  
to follow: H: to follow; K--58: to follow: 66.  
in our power; they too K, H: in our power. They too 40--58:  
in our power, they too 66.  
our cry of 'Judas' K, H: our cry of 'Judas', 40--66.  
As he did, and H: As he did and K--66. (as 66.)  
is dumb; K, H: is dumb: 40--50: is dumb; 58: is dumb. 66.  
*over a grave K, H--58: Over his grave 66.  
The household of impulse K: The household of impulse H:  
The household of Impulse 40--66. (the 66.) *mourn K: mourns H-66.  
one dearly loved: K, H: one dearly loved. 40--58: one dearly loved: 66.  
*And weeping anarchic Aphrodite. K, H:  
And weeping of anarchic Aphrodite. 40:  
And weeping anarchic Aphrodite. 45--66. (and 66.)  
VI: While explosives blow to dust  
[First printed as a separate pamphlet, 1939*; AT, 'Epitaphalmon: For Giuseppe Antonio Borgese/and Elizabeth Mann (Nov. 23, 1939)'; CP; CSP 1950, 'Epitaphalmon (For Giuseppe Antonio Borgese and Elizabeth Mann, 23rd November 1939)']  
84 And a freely-chosen task: 40: / And a freely chosen task: 45, 50.  
91 Every lover's role for you, 40 / Every lover's rôle for you, 45, 50.  
118 Turning poverty to song, 40, 45: / Turning poverty to song. 50.  
119 *Goethe innocent of sin 40: / Goethe ignorant of sin 45, 50.  
125 *Organised his wish for death 40, 45: / Organized his wish for death 50.
INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The following lists are an attempt to clarify how the pieces of verse originally included in Auden's books of poetic drama or journey continued to be evolved as independent poems in his subsequent volumes of selected or collected poems.

i) The poems examined here are, with several exceptions, limited to those which survive as separate poems in the Collected Poetry of 1945. 'Letters to a Wound' and 'Depravity: A Sermon', originally contained in The Orators and in The Dog Beneath the Skin respectively, and then in the Collected Poetry with corrections or excisions, are omitted here because they are in prose form.

ii) All the books here examined have gone into the second or third editions in recent years. When the new editions involve the author's revisions, which sometimes agree and sometimes disagree with those made in his collections and selections, the variant readings are given in the lists.

iii) The order of the poems in each of the lists follow that of them in the original first editions.

iv) The abbreviations used in the square brackets in the lists are as follows (the editions or versions which could not be seen are starred):

\[ P = \text{Poems} (SHS, 1928; Faber & Faber, 1930, first edition; 1933, second edition) \]
\[ O = \text{The Orators} (Faber & Faber, 1932) \]
\[ O_2^* = \text{The Orators} (Faber & Faber, 1934, second edition) \]
\[ O_3 = \text{The Orators} (Faber & Faber, 1966, third edition) \]
\[ DBS = \text{The Dog Beneath the Skin} (Faber & Faber, 1935) \]
\[ DBS_2 = \text{The Dog Beneath the Skin} (Faber Paper Covered Edition, 1968) \]
\[ AF6^* = \text{The Ascent of F6} (Faber & Faber, 1936) \]
\[ AF6_2 = \text{The Ascent of F6} (Faber & Faber, 1937, revised edition) \]
AF6, = The Ascent of F6 (Faber Paper Covered Edition, 1958; with On the Frontier)
Lfi = Letters from Iceland (Faber & Faber, 1937)
JW = Journey to a War (Faber & Faber, 1939)
SP = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1938; 1968); Some Poems (Faber & Faber, 1940); W.H. Auden: A Selection by the Author (Penguin Books, 1958)
CP = Collected Poetry (Random House, 1945)
CSP = Collected Shorter Poems (Faber & Faber, 1950; 1966)
CLP = Collected Longer Poems (Faber & Faber, 1968)

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June 30, 1976 Y.S.Y.

PAID ON BOTH SIDES (1930)

C stands for the Criterion (January 1930) version below.

Not from this life, not from this life is any

[Criterion, IX, 269; P 1930, 8; P 1933, 12; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, 'All Over Again'; CSP 1950, 200-201; CLP, 12]

4 *Learns from old termers what death is, where. C-68:
   Learns from old timers what death is, where. 45.
7 A changed one; C-50: A changed one, 45; 68.
7-8 to deny/ Sorrow, to replace death; sorrow is sleeping thus. C-50:
   to deny/ Sorrow, to replace death? Sorrow is sleeping thus. 45; 68.
9 to-day’s C-50: today’s 45; 68.

Can speak of trouble, pressure on men

[Criterion, IX, 269-270; P 1930, 8-9; P 1933, 12-13; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, 'Always in Trouble'; CSP 1950, 201; CLP, 13-14]

3/4 (stanza break) C, 30; (no stanza break) 33-68.
13-14 learning to point/To jump before ladies, to show our scars: C-50; 45:
   learning to point,/To jump before ladies, to show our scars: 68.
15-16 But no/We were mistaken, C-50; 45: But no,/We were mistaken, 68.

The Spring unsettles sleeping partnerships

[Criterion, IX, 276-277; P 1930, 17-18; P 1933, 21; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, ‘It’s Too Much’; CSP 1950, 208-209; CLP, 20]

10 *needing no look, C-40; 45; needing to look, 50: needing no look, 68.

To throw away the key and walk away


1 and walk away 28; C-50: and walk away, 45, 58; 68.
2 the neighbours asking why 28: the neighbours asking why, C-68; 45, 58.
3 with left and right, 28: with left and right C-50; 45:
   with left and right, 58; 68.
4 at another rate 28; C-50; 45: at another rate, 58; 68.
5 wall, 28: wall C-50; 45: wall, 58; 68.
6 *A hand put up to ask, 28: The hand put up to ask; C-68; 45, 58.
8 now 28: now, C-68.
9 held, looking on a new view. 28: held looking on a new view; C-68; 45, 58.
10 *shall fulfill a surer vow, 28: shall fulfill a surer vow C-50; 45:
   shall fulfill a surer vow. 58: shall fulfill a surer vow, 68.
11 Not smiling at Queen 28: Not smiling at queen C-68; 45, 58. over
   the glass rim, 28: over the glass rim C-50; 45; 58: over the glass rim, 68.
12 *Not making gunpowder 28: Nor making gunpowder C-68; 45, 58.
13 still like gulls, 28: still like gulls C-68; 45, 58.
14/15 (stanza break) 28; C-68; 45: (no stanza break) 58.
15 *But these are still to tempt; 28: But there are still to tempt; C-68; 45, 58.
16 or an erring sign 28; C-50; 45, 58: or an erring sign, 68.
17 *When guessed-at wonders 28: Whose guessed at wonders C-68:
   Whose guessed-at wonders 45: Whose guessed at wonders 58.
   *would be worth alleging, 28: would be worth alleging, C-68; 45, 58.
18 of a night’s lodging 28: of a night’s lodging. C-68; 45:
   of a night’s lodging; 58.
19 *Travellers may meet at inns 28: Travellers may sleep at inns C-68; 45, 58.
   but not attach. 28: but not attach, C-68; 45: but not attach; 58.
20 not asked to touch, 28: not asked to touch; C-68; 45:
   not asked to touch, 58.
22 the assuaging lap; 28: the assuaging lap. C-68: 45: the assuaging lap, 58.
23 Crossing the pass, descend the growing stream, 28:
Crossing the pass descend the growing stream C-50; 45, 58.

Crossing the pass descend the growing stream, 68.

24 *except the pulse's strum, 28: except the pulses' strum, C-68; 45, 58.
25 to ask for a bed in 28; C-50; 45: to ask for a bed in, 58; 68.
26 *Rocks shutting out the sky, 28: Rock shutting out the sky, C-68; 45, 58.

Some say that handsome raider still at large

(P 1928, XIX; Criterion, IX, 285-286; P 1930, 28-29; P 1933, 32; SP 1938;
SP 1940; CSP 1950, 218; CLP, 29)

(This poem is included because it seems to indicate the author's re-consideration.)

2 *A terror to the Marches, in truth is love; 28, C: (love 28)
A terror to the Marshes, is truth in love; 30-50:
A terror to the Marshes, in truth is love; 68.
4 To tell us daily 'To-day 28-50: To tell us daily: 'Today' 68.
4-5 blessing/The huts,' 28: blessing/The huts': 68.
5 in the provinces 28-50: in the provinces, 68.
6 and people passing. 28: and people passing.' C-68.
8-9 and love/Calls order; silenced the angry sons, 28:
and love/Calls order—silenced the angry sons— C-68.

The summer quickens all,

(P 1928, XVIII; Criterion, IX, 286; P 1930, 29; P 1933, 32; SP 1938, 32-33; SP 1940, 15-16; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXIII'; CSP 1950, 218-19; CLP, 20)

1 *quickens grass 28: quickens all, C-68.
3 no less, 28: no less C-68: no less, 45.
5 the year, 28-40; 45: the year 50: the year, 68.
9 But loving now, 28: But loving now C-68: But, loving now, 45.
12 All of them evil, one. 28-68: /All of them evil, one; 45.
15 The ice sheet moving down, 28: The ice-sheet moving down, C-68; 45.

To-night the many come to mind

(P 1928, 'XIII'; Criterion, IX, 286-287; P 1930, 30; P 1933, 33; SP 1938; SP 1940;
CP, 'Remember'; CSP 1950, 219; CLP, 30-31)

1 *To-night when a full storm surrounds the house
And the fire creaks, the many come to mind, 28:
To-night the many come to mind C-68. (Tonight 45; 68.)
2 with anxious marrow; 28: with anxious marrow, C: with anxious marrow
30-50: with anxious marrow; 45: with anxious marrow, 68.
W. H. AUDEN'S REVISIONING PROCESS (III)

4 An image pause, 28: An image pause C-68: An image, pause 45.
   *half-lighted at the door, 28: half-lighted in the door, C-68; 45.
5 in all, 28: in all; C-68: in all, 45.
6 an astonishing end, 28: an astonishing end ... C-68: an astonishing end— 45.
7 —Morgan's who took a clean death 28: Morgan's who took a clean death
   C-68; 45. in the North, 28: in the north C-68; 45.
8 *Shouting against the gale, 28: Shouting against the wind, C-68; 45.
   or cousin Dodd's, 28: or Cousin Dodd's, C-68; 45.
9 *Passed out, asleep in her chair, the snow falling. 28:
   Passed out in her chair, the snow falling. C-68.
   Passed out in her chair, the snow falling— 45.
10 The too loved clays, 28: The too-loved clays, C-68; 45.
   *born over by diverse drifts, 28: born ever by diverse drifts, C-50:
   born over by diverse drifts, 45; 68.
12/13 (no stanza break) 28; C-40; 45: (stanza break) 50: (no stanza break) 68.
13 *Out of that grave, stern on no capital fault. 28:
   Out of that grave stern on no capital fault; C-68.
   Out of that grave, stern to no capital fault; 45.
14 —Enough 28: Enough C-68; 45.

Though he believe it, no man is strong.
(Criterion, IX, 290; P 1930, 34; P 1933, 37; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, 'Year After
   Year'; CSP 1950, 222-223; CLP, 34)
(No verbal difference between the eight versions.)
1/2 (no stanza break) C-40; 45: (stanza break) 50: (no stanza break) 68.

THE ORATORS (1932)

The O₃ versions agree with the 1932 versions except where the variants are
given: (66) designates the O₃ version while 66 stands for the CSP 1966 version.

Private faces in public places
(O, 7, 'To Stephen Spender'; O₂*, CSP 1966, 42-43, the tenth and the last of
   'Shorts'; O₃, 7) (No revision.)

By landscape reminded once of his mother's figure
(O, 9, 'Prologue'; O₂*, SP 1938, 'Prologue'; CP, 'Adolescence'; CSP 1950; CSP
   1966; O₃, 9]
5 Among green pastures straying he walks by still waters; 32-50:
   In a green pasture straying, he walks by still waters; 66.
The band roars 32: The band roars, 38: The band roars 45-66:
   The band roars (66) (apparently a misprint).

We have brought you, they said, a map of the country;
[O, 46-48; O₃; CP, ‘Have a Good Time’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966; O₃, 46-47]
1  We have brought you, they said, a map of the country; 32:
   “We have brought you,” they said, “a map of the country; 45-66.
8  in the country, 32: in the country. 45-66.
11 in the bay 32: in the bay, 45-66.
18 and live by the clock. 32: and live by the clock.” 45-66.
19 it was time by the clock, 32: it was time by the clock. 45-66.
20 as he passed the wood 32: as he passed the wood; 45-66.
23 over the darkening country 32-50: over the darkening country, 66.
33 Now curious following his love, 32-50:
   Now, curious, following his love, 66.
39 This is your country and the home of love. 32:
   “This is your country and the home of love.” 45-66.

There are some birds in these valleys
[O, 70-71; O₂; CP, ‘The Decoys’; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966; O₃, 64-65]
11-15 *But fowlers, O, like foxes,
   Lie ambushed in the rushes.
   Along the harmless tracks
   The madman keeper crawls through brushwood,
   Axe under oxter. 32-50:
   (the third stanza, cut) 58: (recovered) 66.
19 fall away from brightness 32-50: fall away from brightness, 58:
   fall away from brightness 66.

Watching in three planes from a room overlooking the courtyard
[Dope, New Year 1932*; O, ‘Six Odes, I’; O₂; CP, ‘January I, 1931’; CSP 1950,
   ‘1st January 1931’; O₃, ‘Five Odes, I’]
7 *Heard a voice saying— ‘Wystan, Stephen, Christopher, all of you, 32:
   And heard a voice saying—“Subjects, Objects, all of you, 45, 50:
   Heed a voice saying—“Savers, payers, payees, all of you, (66).
30 *jumped the undressed German, 32-50: jumped an undressed German, (66).
31 *And Stephen signalled 32: And Pretzel signalled 45-(66).
38 *Christopher stood, 32: Maverick stood, 45-(66).
55 *nor on the arrête 32-50: nor on the arête (66).
59 *Of all the healers, granny in mittens, the Mop, the white surgeon, 32, (66):
Granny in mittens, the Judge, the bucolic doctor, 45, 50.

*And loony Layard. 32: /And the suave archdeacon. 45-(66).

—as I stood a spectator; 32, (66): —as I stood a spectator, 45, 50.

What siren zooming is sounding our coming

(O, ‘Six Odes, III (To Edward Upward, Schoolmaster)’; O₂,*; SP 1938, ‘Ode’;
CP, ‘The Exiles’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966; O₃, ‘Five Odes, II’)

2 from freedom 32-50; (66): from freedom, 66.
7 We alight at last 32-50; (66): we alight at last, 66.
8 on the moor 32-50; (66): on the moor, 66.
16 on this shore 32-50; (66): on this shore, 66.
23 *Or icicles sombre 32-50; (66): /Or icicle sombre 66.
29 To the bathers’ rocks 32, 38; (66): /To the bathers’ rocks, 45-66.
32 for keeping our clothes, 32-50; (66): for keeping our clothes: 66.
46 In snowy lanes 32-50; (66): /In snowy lanes, 66.
47 Shut in by wires 32, 38; (66): /Shut in by wires, 45-66.
50 in Autumn 32-50; (66): in Autumn, 66.

55-72 *We are here for our health, we have not to fear
The fiend in the furze or the face at the manse;
Proofed against shock
Our hands can shake;
The flag at the golf-house flutters
And nothing matters.

We shall never need another new outfit;
These grounds are for good, we shall grow no more,
But lose our colour
With scurf on collar
Peering through glasses
At our own glosses.

This life is to last, when we leave we leave all,
Though vows have no virtue, though voice is in vain,
We live like ghouls
On posts from girls
What the spirit utters
In formal letters.

(62 We shall grow no more. (66).)

(the 10th to 12th stanzas, cut) 45-66.

73-78 *We shall rest without risk, neither ruler with rod
Nor spy with signals for secret agent
Tasteless for fruit
Too nervous for feat
Spending all time
With the Doc or the Jim, 32;
(the 13th stanza, cut) 34*-66. [*According to the Bibliography, p. 9.]

80 at the fall of the year, 32: at the fall of the year. 38:
   at the fall of the year, 50, 66: at the fall of the year. (66).

88 To lack of stature 32, 38, (66): /To lack of stature, 45-66.
91 for talking 32, 38, (66): for talking, 45-66.
92 for something to see 32, 38, (66): for something to see, 45-66.

97-100 *Till the town is ten and the time is London
   And nerves grow numb between north and south
   Hear last in corner
   The pffwungg of burner
   32-50:
   Till our nerves are numb and their now is a time
   Too late for love or for lying either,
   Grown used at last
   To having lost,
   66, (66).


These had stopped seeking

[Adelphi, December 1931, ‘Cautionary Rhymes, (1)’; O, 100 (12 lines from ‘Six
Odes, IV’); O₂*, CP, ‘Like Us’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 43, the ninth of the
‘Shorts’; O₃, 88]

3 Have not contributed, 32, 45: /Have not contributed. 50:
   /Have not contributed 66; (66).

5-8 *These ordered light/But had no right/And handed on/War and a son: 31:
   These ordered light/But had no right,/And handed on/War and a son 32-50:
   These ordered light/But had no right,/These handed on/War and a son. 66,
   (66).

9-12 *Wishing no harm/But to be warm/These went to sleep/On the burning
   heap. 31:
   Wishing no harm./But to be warm/These went to sleep/On the burning
   heap. 32-50:
   Wishing no harm/But to be warm,/These fell asleep/On the burning heap.
   66, (66).

Though aware of our rank and alert to obey orders,

[New Signatures, 1932; O, ‘Six Odes, V(To My Pupils)’; O₂*; SP 1938; CP,
‘Which Side am I Supposed to be On?’; CSP 1950; SP 1958, ‘Ode’; CSP 1966;
O₃, ‘Five Odes, IV’; SP 1968, ‘Ode’]

(NS and 32 designate the New Signatures and The Orators versions respectively.)
3 the code-word committed to memory, NS: 
the code-word committed to memory; 32-68.
5 like the oldest soldier NS: like the oldest soldier, 32-68.
10 The maned lion common; NS: /The maned lion common, 32-68.
11 in every garden: NS: in every garden; 32-68.
13 *Perfectly certain, all of us, but not from the records, NS, 32-50:
   Perfectly certain, all of us, of what happened but not from the records, 58:
14 to the camp: NS: to the camp; 32-58: to the camp: 66, (66), 68.
16 The sack of a city; NS: /The sack of a city, 32-68.
17 collapsed at our feet NS: collapsed at our feet, 32-68.
19 but do not now; NS: but do not now, 32-68.
20 but do not here: NS: but do not here; 32-68.
26 over cornfield and pasture. NS: over cornfield and pasture, 32-68.
27 fumbling for boots; NS: fumbling for boots, 32-68.
28 Time to change guard. NS: /Time to change guard: 32-68.
31 all of our world: NS: all of our world, 32-68.
32 a tiger in the garden; NS: a tiger in the garden, 32-68.
34 Far away fighting; NS: /Far away fighting, 32-68.
35 and your brother mocked you NS: and your brother mocked you: 32-68.
37-42 *You've got their names to live up to and questions won't help,
   You've a very full programme, first aid, gunnery, tactics,
   The technique to master of raids and hand-to-hand fighting;
   Are you in training?
   Are you taking care of yourself? are you sure of passing
   The endurance test? NS-50:
(37 help; NS: help, 32-50.) (38 first-aid, NS: first aid, 32-50.)
(39 fighting: NS: fighting; 32-50.) (40 training, NS: training? 32-50.)
(41 yourself, NS: yourself? 32-50.)
(one stanza, cut) 58-68; (66).
43 in front of the Cathedral; NS: in front of the Cathedral, 32-68.
44 the choir-boys, NS-38: the choirboys, 45, 50: the choir-boys, 58:
   the choirboys, 66, (66), 68.
50 beside them: NS: beside them; 32-68.
53 from the rocks NS: from the rocks: 32-68.
55 *What have we all been up to to have made from Fear NS:
   What have we all been doing to have made from Fear 32-68.
56 addressing them now; NS: addressing them now? 32-68.
57 'Heart and head NS-45: Heart and head 50; 'Heart and head 58;
   Heart and head 66, (66), 68,
58 As our might lessens.” NS: /As our might lessens’: 32-58: / 
As our might lessens: 66, (66), 68.
59 their shout ‘we will fight NS-38;(66): their shout “We will fight 45-68.
62 the feinted retreat NS: the feinted retreat; 32-68.
64 As husband true; NS: /As husband true, 32-68
67 austerer than us; NS: austerer than us, 32-68.
68 *Big simple Greed; Acedia, famed with them all NS:
Big simple greed, Acedia famed with them all 32, 38:
Big simple Greed, Acedia famed with them all 45, 50:
Quiet Avarice, Acedia famed with them all 58:
Big simple Greed, Acedia famed with them all 66, (66), 68.
69 keeping the outposts; NS: keeping the outposts, 32-68.
69-70 *and somewhere Lust/With his sapper’s skill, NS-58; (66):
and somewhere Lust,/That skilful sapper, 66, 68.
71-72 *Could I meet here with Love,/I would hug him to death’. NS-38; (66):
“Could I meet here with Love,/I would hug her to death.” 45-68.
(71 *meet her (66);)
74 on the look-out: NS: on the look-out, 32-68.
75 through a doorway, NS-38: through a doorway. 45, 50: through a doorway, 58: through a doorway 66, (66), 68.
76 at last: NS; at last; 32-68.
74 we imagined, NS-45: we imagined. 50: we imagined, 58: we imagined 66, 68.
82 Worried for weeks, NS: /Worried for weeks; 32-68.
85 we were never told; NS: we were never told, 32-68.
87 They will never reveal, though kept NS:
They will never reveal though kept 32-68.
88 “Death to the squealer.” NS: /‘Death to the squealer’: 32-50: /
‘Death to the squealer’; 58: /‘Death to the squealer’: 66, (66), 68.
91 it is unsafe there; NS: it is unsafe there, 32-68.
92 that area is closed: NS: that area is closed; 32-68.
93 at the climbers’ junction; NS: at the climbers’ Junction, 32-68.
97-108 *Do you think that because you have heard that on Christmas Eve
In a quiet sector they walked about on the skyline,
Exchanged cigarettes, both learning the words for ‘I love you’
In either language:
You can stroll across for a smoke and a chat any evening?
Try it and see.
That rifle-sight you're designing; is it ready yet?
You're holding us up; the office is getting impatient;
The square munition works out on the old allotments
Needs stricter watching;
If you see any loiterers there you may shoot without warning,
We must stop that leakage.

(97 *Do you think because NS: Do you think that because 32-50.)
(100 language, NS: language: 32-50.)
(104 impatient: NS: impatient; 32-50.)
(105 *allotment NS: allotments 32-50.)
(two stanzas, cut) 58-68; (66).
109 we must say good-bye; NS: we must say good-bye. 32-68.
113 cut peat for your fires." NS: cut peat for your fires’, 32-68.

Not, father, further do prolong
[O, 114, ‘Six Odes, VI’; O₂; CP, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XVII’;
CSP 1950; O₃, ‘Five Odes, V’]
1 *Not, father 32: Not, Father, 45, 50.
5 *Against your direct light, 32: Against Your direct light, 45, 50.
8 *Our maddened set we foot. 32: /We set our maddened foot. 45, 50.
9-11 *These nissen huts if hiding could
Your eye inseeing from
Firm fenders were, but look! to us 32:
These nissen huts, if hide we could
Your eye inseeing from,
Firm fenders were, but lo! to us 45, 50.
13 *Against your accusations 32: /Against Your accusations 45, 50.
18 *Your organised blockade, 32: /Your organized blockade, 45, 50.

‘O where are you going?’ said reader to rider,
Musical Pieces, XXV; CSP 1950; SP 1958, ‘The Three Companions’; CSP 1966,
12 *The spot on your skin is a shocking disease? 32-58:
The spot on your skin is a shocking disease.’ 66, 68.
13-15 ‘Out of this house’—said rider to reader
‘Yours never will’—said farer to fearer
‘They’re looking for you’—said hearer to horror 32-40:
“Out of this house”—said rider to reader,
“Yours never will”—said farer to fearer,
“They’re looking for you”—said hearer to horror, 45-68,
THE DOG BENEATH THE SKIN (1935)
The pieces of verse in the reprinted edition (1968) appear on the identical pages to those of the first edition, and no difference can be found between the two versions so far as the poems examined below are concerned.

The Summer holds: upon its glittering lake

(Left Review, May 1935*; DBS, 11-13, 'Chorus'; The Year's Poetry 1935; SP 1938; SP 1940)

(This poem has been examined because the incorrect spelling seems to have been corrected only in the Year's Poetry version. YP stands for the version.)

7-8 *the Dutch sea so shallow/That sunk St Paul's 35-40. (St. Paul's YP:)

10 an English village: You shall choose 35-40. (village: you YP:)

16 *or meadows where browse the Shorthorn and the maplike Frisian 35-40.

(Friesian YP:)

17 As at Trent Junction where the Soar comes gliding; 35-40.

(Trent junction YP: gliding, YP:)

17-18 (stanza break) 35-40. (no stanza break) YP:

26 *Dusty the gunrooms and the stable clocks stationary. 35-40.

(clocks are stationary. YP:)

32 Brought in charabanc and saloon along arterial roads; 35-40.

(char-a-banc YP:)

35 With leather work as a sideline: Filling stations 35-40. (filling YP:)

37 or desire a special setting for spooning 35-40. (spooning, YP:)

45 appropriate to the years of the Penny Farthing: 35-40. (Farthing; YP:)

The young men in Pressan to-night

(Listener, 12 July 1933*; Living Age, October 1933*; DBS, 13-16; SP 1938, 'Chorus'; CP, 'The Witness'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966)

1 *The young men in Pressan to-night 35, 38:

Young men late in the night 45-66.

2 Toss on their beds 35-60: /Toss on their beds, 66.

4 Their uneasy heads. 35, 38: /Their uneasy heads, 45-66.

6 Is cast to-morrow, 35-66. (tomorrow, 45:)

9 *Is it me? Is it me? Is it... me? 35, 38:


14-15 *Deceive you often into many/A curious sleight 35-50:

Deceive you often with many/A curious sleight, 66.

18-19 What shall he do, whose heart/Chooses to depart? 35, 38:

What shall he do, whose heart/Chooses to depart? 45-66.

23 At home in a garden. 35-50: /At home in a garden, 66,
28-29 Will he safe and sound/Return to his own ground? 35, 38:
   Will he safe and sound/Return to his own ground? 45-66.
31 Before him dangerous 35-50:/ Before him dangerous, 66.
33 *Oh let him honour us 35, 38: /Oh let him honour Us 45, 50:/
   Then let him honour Us, 66.
34 Lest he should be ashamed 35-66. (he should he 45:)
36 *In the valleys of corrosion 35-50: /In the valley of corrosion 66.
38-39 *Who are you, whose speech/Sounds far out of reach? 35, 38:
   Who are You, whose speech/Sounds far out of reach? 45-66.
41 of the gate in the rock. 35-50: of the gate in the rock, 66.
43 and on your right 35-50: and on your right, 66.
44 Come in. 35, 38: /Come in; 45-66.
56 *The expansive moments of constricted lives 35, 38:
   The expansive dreams of constricted lives, 45-66.
58-59 *But do not imagine we do not know/Nor that 35, 38:
   But do not imagine We do not know,/Or that 45-66.
60 At a glance. 35, 38: /At a glance: 45-66.
62 of believing us dead: 35, 38: of believing us dead; 45-66.
64 you'll have a fall. 35, 38: you'll have a fall; 45-66.
66 For hours. 35, 38: /For hours: 45-66.
67 darkening like a stain, 35, 38: darkening like a stain; 45-66.
68 to fall like rain 35, 38: to fall like rain, 45-66.
70 comes off like a lid 35, 38: comes off like a lid, 45-66.
71-72 Revealing what was much better hid:/Unpleasant. 35-38:
   Revealing what was much better hid—/Unpleasant: 45-66.
76 sliding in its groove, 35, 38: sliding in its groove; 45-66.
77-78 *the black remov-/ers van. 35:
   the black remov-/ers van. 38:
   the black remov-/er's van: 45-66.
80-81 *Come the woman in dark glasses and the humpbacked surgeons
   And the scissor man. 35, 38:
   Come the hooded women, the hump-backed surgeons,
   And the Scissor Man. 45-66.
82 any day 35, 38: any day; 45-66.
83-84 *So be careful what you say/Or do. 35, 38:
   So be careful what you say/And do: 45-66.
86 *Trim the garden, wind the clock, 35, 38:
   Weed the garden, wind the clock; 45-66.
Enter with him

[Twentieth Century, August 1933*; New Republic, 17 October 1934*; DBS, 26-28;
CP, 'I Shall Be Enchanted'; CSP 1950, 'Legend'; SP 1958, 'In Legend'; CSP
1966, 'Legend'; SP 1968]

2 These legends, love, 35:/These legends, Love; 45-68.
3-6 *For him assume/Each diverse form/As legend simple/As legend queer 35:
   For him assume/Each diverse form/To legend native,/As legend queer;
   45-58:
   For him assume/Each diverse form,/To legend native,/As legend queer;

66, 68.

8 What these require 35: What these require, 45-68.

9-10 Be, love, like him/To legend true. 35:
   Be, Love, like him/To legend true. 45-68.

10/11 (no stanza break) 35: (stanza break) 45-68.

13-15 *Must cross in sorrow/Corrosive seas/As dolphin do, 35:
   Must cross in sorrow/Corrosive seas,/As dolphin go; 45-68.

20-21 Required to please/The guardians there. 35:
   Required to please/The guardians there; 45-68.

24 Big birds pursue 35: /Big birds pursue, 45-68.

25 Again be true 35: /Again be true, 45-68.

26-27 Between his thighs/As pony rise 35:
   Between his thighs/As pony rise, 45-68.

31/32 (no stanza break) 35: (stanza break) 45-68.

32-33 *But when at last/These dangers past 35:
   But when at last,/These dangers passed, 45-68.

34-35 *His grown desire/Of legends tire 35:
   His grown desire/Of legend tire, 45-68.

36 *O then, love, standing 35: /O then, Love, standing 45-58 /
   Then, Love, standing 66, 68.

37 *At legends' ending, 35, 45: /At legend's ending, 50-68.

38 Claim your reward 35: Claim your reward; 45-68.

41 Of his reluctant sword 35: /Of his reluctant sword, 45-68.

42-44 *That starting back/His eyes may look/Amazed as you 35:
   That, starting back,/His eyes may look/Amazed on you, 45-68.

47-48 *But disenchanted/Your simplest love. 35:
   But disenchanted,/Your finite love. 45, 50:
   But disenchanted,/Your human love. 58:
   But disenchanted,/Love as love. 66, 68.

You with shooting-sticks and cases for field-glasses, 
...
(W.H. AUDEN’S REVISING PROCESS(III))

[DBS, 54-56, ‘Chorus’; The Year’s Poetry 1935; SP 1938, ‘Chorus’; DBS_2]

(This poem is contained because the Year’s Poetry version seems to show the corrected reading not found in any other versions; YP designates that version.)

2 *before the west fronts of cathedrals: appraising the curious carving: 35-38. (front of cathedrals: YP: fronts of cathedrals 38.)

5 *From the square surrounded by Georgian houses, 35-38. (house, YP:)

3 *the trumpetting angels, 35, YP: the trumpeting angels, 38.

10 Look left: The moon shows locked sheds, wharves by water, 35-38. (left: the moon YP:)

14 At the Diesel engines like howdahed elephants: 35-38. (elephants; YP:)

24 *Full as a theatre is the foul thoroughfare: some sitting like sacks, 35-38. (thoroughfare: YP:)

25 their eye-balls drugged like a dead rabbit’s, 35-38. (rabbit’s. YP:)

26 by want so fretted his face has assumed the features of a tortoise: 35-38. (so fretted; his face YP:)

34 Those suffering from self deceptions necessary to life 35-38. (self-deceptions YP:)

Seen when night was silent,

[Lysistrata, May 1935*; DBS, 65; CP, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXIX’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Five Songs, IV’; DBS_2]

1 *night was silent, 35; night is silent, 45, 50: nights are silent. 66.

2 The bean-shaped island 35-50: The bean-shaped island, 66.

3-4 *And our ugly comic servant/Who is observant. 35:

And our ugly comic servant,/Who was observant. 45, 50:

And our ugly comic servant./Who was observant. 66.

4/5 (no stanza break) 35: (stanza break) 45-66.

5-7 *O the verandah and the fruit

The tiny steamer in the bay
Startling summer with its hoot. 35-66.

(5 *verandah 35, 45: veranda 50, 66. fruit 35: fruit, 45-66.)

(7 hoot. 35: hoot:— 45-66.)

Cf. The above three lines are adapted from ‘Five Poems, II’, ll. 2-4, New Verse, October 1933:

The island, the veranda, and the fruit;
The tiny steamer breaking from the bay;
The literary mornings with its hoot;

Happy the hare at morning, for she cannot read

2-3 The Hunter's waking thoughts. Lucky the leaf
    Unable to predict the fall. Lucky indeed 35:
    The Hunter's waking thoughts, lucky the leaf
    Unable to predict the fall, lucky indeed 45, 50.

6-8 *The elementary sensual cures,
    The hibernations and the growth of hair assuage:
    Or best of all the mineral stars disintegrating quietly into light. 35:
    (three lines, cut) 45, 50.

10 *Know to the bar when death shall cut him short, like the cry of the
    shearwater? 35:
    Knows to the bar when death shall cut him short like the cry of the
    shearwater, 45, 50.

11 *We will show you what he has done. 35:
    What can he do but defend himself from his knowledge? 45, 50.

11/12 (no stanza break) 35: (stanza break) 45, 50.

16-17 *the thickets where accosted lovers combatant/May warm each other 35:
    the thickets where accosted lovers combatant/May warm each other 45, 50.

Now through night's caressing grip

[DBS, 115-116; SP 1938, 'Chorus'; SP 1940; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces,
XIX'; CSP 1950; DBS 2]

4 From her fingers into day 35-40: From her fingers into day, 45, 50.
6 *towards her shadow line. 35-40: toward her shadow line. 45, 50.
8 to sleep: 35-40: to sleep; 45, 50.
10 Change their places as they rest: 35-40: Change their places as they rest; 45-50.
12 disdainful beauty yields: 35-40: disdainful beauty yields; 45, 50.
14 Naked stand before the crowd 35-40: Naked stand before the crowd, 45, 50.
15-16 And the losing gambler gains/And the beggar entertains: 35-40:
    And the losing gambler gains,/And the beggar entertains. 45, 50.
17-18 *May sleep's healing power extend
    Through these hours to our friend. 35-40:
    May sleep's healing power extend
    Through these hours to each friend; 45, 50.
19-20 Unpursued by hostile force,/Traction engine, bull or horse 35-40:
    Unpursued by hostile force/Traction engine bull or horse 45, 50.

You who return tonight to a narrow bed

[DBS, 140-141, 143-44; CSP 1950, 'Prothalamion']

1 tonight 35; to-night 50.
6 *Beginning to realise 35: Beginning to realize 50.
Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,

(AF6*; AF6₂, pp. 116–177; Poems of To-day, third series(1938), 'Blues';
    Another Time, 'Four Cabaret Songs for Miss Hedli Anderson, 3, Funeral Blues';
    CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXX'; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'Two Songs for
    Hedli Anderson, I'; CSP 1966, 'Twelve Songs, IX')

(The list of variants of this poem in 'A Study of W.H. Auden's Revising Process
(II)', p. 28, was imperfect. The following list is given as a more correct one.
The variants in the Poems of To-day version are listed because this version is the
only independent poem I could find preceding to that of the Another Time version.

1 telephone, 37-66. (telephone; 38:)
2 Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone, 37-66. (bone; 38:)
3 Silence the pianos and with muffled drum 37-66. (pianos, and 38:)
5 *Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead 37-66.
   (*Let aeroplane circle 50: *circle a moaning overhead, 38:)
6 the message: He is Dead. 37: the message: "He is dead." 38:
   the message He Is Dead, 40-66.
7 Put crêpe bows round the white necks of the public doves, 37-66.
   (crepe bows 37:)
9 *He was my North, my South, and East and West, 38:
   He was my North, my South, my East and West, 40-66.
10 My working week, and my Sunday rest; 38:
    My working week and my Sunday rest, 40-66.
12* I thought that love could last for ever: I was wrong. 38:
   I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong. 40-66.
The stars are not wanted now, put out every one; The stars are not wanted now: put out every one, The stars are not wanted now; put out every one: The stars are not wanted now: put out every one; Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun; 38-66, (the sun, 40:)
Pour away the ocean, 38: Pour away the ocean 40-66.
*and sweep up the wood: 38: and sweep up the woods; 40: and sweep up the woods: 45, 50: and sweep up the wood. 58, 66.

At last the secret is out, as it always must come in the end,

*The scent of the elder bushes, 37, 45: The scent of elder bushes, 50, 66.

JOURNEY TO ICELAND(1937)

And the traveller hopes: 'Let me be far from any

Physician'; And 36-50: Physician.' And YP: Physician'; and 45, 50.

Each traveller prays Let me be far from any

physician, every port has its name for the sea, 66:

And each traveller hopes: 'Let me be far from any Physician.' And each port has a name for the sea, 67.

3 The citiless, 36-50; 67: the citiless, 66.

the sorrow; 36-50: the sorrow, 66: the sorrow. 67.

4 And North means to all: 'Reject!' 36-40; 67:

And North means to all: "Reject." 45, 50:

and North means to all Reject. 66.

5 *And the great plains are for ever where the cold fish is hunted, 36-50:

(*for ever 36-40: forever 45, 50:)

These plains are for ever where cold creatures are hunted 66:
The great plains are for ever where the cold fish are hunted.

6 *And everywhere; the light birds flicker and flaunt; 36-50:
   (The 36: the 37-50:)
   and on all sides: white wings flicker and flaunt; 66:
   And everywhere. Light birds flicker and flaunt; 67.

7 *Under the scolding flag 36-50 (Under a scolding flag YP): under a scolding flag 66: Under a scolding flag 67.

8 Of islands 36-50; 67: of islands 66.

9 *Faintly, his limited hope; and he nears the glitter 36-40:
   Faintly, his limited hope, as he nears the glitter 45, 50; 67:
   in outline, his limited hope, as he nears a glitter 66.

10 *Of glaciers, the sterile immature mountains intense 36-50:
   of glacier, sterile immature mountains intense 66:
   Of glaciers, the outlines of sterile mountains, intense 67.

11 *In the abnormal day of this world, 36-50; 67:
   in the abnormal northern day, 66.

11-12 and a river's/Fan-like polyp 36-50; 67: and a river's/fan-like polyp 66.

13 *Then let the good citizen here find natural marvels; 36-50:
   Here let the citizen, then, find natural marvels, 66:
   Then let the good citizen find here natural marvels: 67.

   *the issue of steam 36-40; 67: an issue of steam 45-66.

15 In the rock, 36-50; 67: in the rock 66.

15-16 and rocks, and waterfalls brushing the/Rocks, and among the rocks birds. 36-50:
   and rocks, and waterfalls brushing/the rocks, and among the rocks birds; 66:
   and rocks, and waterfall brushing/the Rocks, and, among the rocks, birds. 67.

17 *And the student of prose and conduct, places to visit; 36-40:
   (conduct 36: conduct, 37-40:) (visit: YP:)
   And the student of prose and conduct places to visit: 45, 50:
   the student of prose and conduct places to visit, 66:
   The student of prose and conduct find places to visit: 67.

18 The site of a church 36-50; 67: the site of a church 66.

19 The bath 36-50; 67: the bath 66.
   *the rock where 36-40; 67: the fort where 45-66.

20 An outlaw 36-50; 67: an outlaw 66. dreaded the dark. 36-40; 67:
   dreaded the dark; 45, 50: dreaded the dark, 66.

21 Remember the doomed man 36-50; 67: remember the doomed man 66.
and crying; 36-40 (and crying YP): and crying, 45, 50: and crying 66:
and crying: 67.

22-24 'Beautiful is the hillside, I will not go';
The old woman confessing: 'He that I loved the
Best, to him I was worst',
36-50; 67:
(22 hillside; YP: go'; 36-40: go', 45, 50: go'; 67.)
(23 confessing: 36-40: confessing, 45, 50.)
(24 worst'. 36; YP: worst', 37-40: worst.' 45: worst'. 50.)

Beautiful is the hillside. I will not go,
the old woman confessing He that I loved the
best, to him I was worst.
66.

25-26 *For Europe is absent. This is an island and therefore
Unreal. And the steadfast affections of its dead may be bought
36-40:
For Europe is absent: this is an island and therefore
A refuge, where the fast affections of its dead may be bought
45, 50:
Europe is absent: this is an island and should be
a refuge, where the affections of its dead can be bought
66.

25-29 (Cut) 67. 1. 25 of the LfI2 version reads:

*Islands are places apart where Europe is absent. 67.
27 By those 36-50: by those 66.
28 Spitefully alive, and 36-50(alive and YP): spitefully alive, and 66.
29 From too much passion 36-50: from too much passion 66.
30 *Can they? For the world is, and the present, and the lie.
36-50:
But is it, can they, as the world is and can lie? 66:
Are they? The world still is, the present, the lie, 67.
31 *And the narrow bridge 36-40; 67: The narrow bridge 45, 50:
A narrow bridge 66.

*over the torrent, 36-50: over a torrent, 66: over a torrent 67.
32 *And the small farm under the crag 36-50:
a small farm under a crag 66:
Or the small farm under a crag 67.
33 *Are the natural setting 36-50: are natural settings 66; 67. (Are 67.)
of a province; 36-50: of a province: 66; 67.
34 *And the weak vow of fidelity is formed by the cairn; 36-50:
(the weak row 36: very probably a misprint.)
a weak vow of fidelity is made at a cairn, 66:
A weak vow of fidelity is sworn by the cairn, 67.
35 *And within 36-50; 67: within 66.
36 On the bridle path 36-50 (bridle-path YP): on the bridle-path 66; 67.
(On 67.)
37 *The blood moves also by crooked and furtive inches, 36-50; 67:
his blood moves also by furtive and crooked inches, 66.

38-40 *Asks all your questions: 'Where is the homage? When
Shall justice be done? O who is against me?
Why am I always alone?' 36-50; 67:

(38 *your 36-40: our 45, 50; 67.)

asks all our questions: Where is the homage? When
shall justice be done? Who is against me?
Why am I always alone?' 66.

41-44 *Present then the world to the world with its mendicant shadow;
Let the suits be flash, the Minister of Commerce insane;
Let jazz be bestowed on the huts, and the beauty's
Set cosmopolitan smile.

36-40; (the eleventh stanza, cut) 45-66; 67.  (41 shadow YP:)

45 *For our time has no favourite suburb; 36-50; 67. (suburb: YP; 67.)
No, our time has no favourite suburb; 45, 50;
Our time has no favourite suburb; 66.

46 Are 36-50; 67: are 66. all wish to care; 36-66: all wish to care; 67.

47 *The promise 36-50; 67: its promise 66.

47-48 the fabulous/Country 36-50; 67: the fabulous/country 66.

49-52 *Tears fall in all the rivers. Again the driver
Pulls on his gloves and in a blinding snowstorm starts
Upon his deadly journey; and again the writer
Runs howling to his art. 36-50; 67.

(49 *a driver 37:) (51 journey; 37-40: journey, 45, 50: journey: 67.)

Tears fall in all the rivers: again some driver
pulls on his gloves and in a blinding snowstorm starts
upon a fatal journey, again some writer
runs howling to his art. 66.

Cf. 'Poem' (The fruit in which your parents hid you, boy,) New Verse, No. 4
(July 1933), of which ll. 12-14 read:

Send back the writer howling to his art,
And the mad driver pulling on his gloves
Start in a snowstorm on his deadly journey.

For who is ever quite without his landscape,
(Lff, 122, 'Detective Story'; CSP 1966, 'Detective Story'; LfI, 120,
'Detective Story')

(The 37 version agrees with the 67 version completely.)

1 *For who is 37: Who is 66.

3 All near the church, or else the gloomy town house, 37:
All near the church? Or else, the gloomy town-house, 66.

5-6 *The tiny workmanlike flat: in any case/A home, the centre 37:
The tiny workmanlike flat, in any case/A home, a centre 66.
8-9 *shade in/The little station 37: shade in/The country station 66.
10 *continually, and mark the spot 37: continually, mark the spot 66.
12-13 *An unknown tramp? A rich man? An enigma always
And with a buried past—but when the truth, 37:
An unknown tramp? A magnate? An enigma always,
With a well-buried past: and when the truth, 66.
14 comes out 37: comes out, 66.
16 *The rest's traditional. All goes to plan: 37:
What follows is habitual. All goes to plan: 66.
18-19 *And that exasperating brilliant intuition
That's always on the spot by chance before us; 37:
And intuition, that exasperating amateur
Who's always on the spot by chance before us; 66.
22-23 *Yet on the last page just a lingering doubt/That verdict, was it just? 37:
Yet, on the last page, a lingering doubt:/The verdict, was it just? 66.
25 why yes. . . 37: why, yes. . . 66.
26 *But time is always killed. 37: But time is always guilty. 66.

O who can ever praise enough

(Poetry, January 1937; Lfl, 143(no title); The Year's Poetry 1937, 'Poem'; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXVII'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'The Price'; Lfl, 141]
(The Lfl version completely agrees with the Lflj version: P stands for the Poetry version below.)
1 *O who can P-50: Who can 66.
4 near his home, P: near his home; YP, 37: near his home, 45-66.
5 *In his woods Love knows no wrong, P: /In his woods love knows no wrong;
YP, 37: /In his woods love knows no wrong, 45-66.
6 their placid ways, P: their placid ways; YP, 37: their placid ways, 66.
9 *O who can paint the vivid tree P-50: /Who can paint the vivid tree 66.
10 *And grass of phantasy? P, YP: /And grass of fantasy? 37:
/And grass of phantasy? 45-66.
12 Shall be his whole reward. P, YP, 37: /Shall be his whole reward: 45-66.
17 *But upon the ninth shall be P, YP, 37: /Then upon the ninth shall be 45-66.

'O who can ever gaze his fill',

(New Statesman, 16 January 1937, 'Song'; The Year's Poetry 1937, 'Song'; Lfl, 227-229(no title); SP 1938; CP, 'Songs And Other Musical Pieces, XXVI'; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'The Dead Echo'; CSP 1966; Lfl, 223-225]
(NS and YP designate the New Statesman and the Year's Poetry 1937 versions
respectively. The LfI and LfI₂ versions are in complete agreement.)

1 *look his fill,' NS, YP: gaze his fill,' 37-66.
2 *At native shore NS, YP: 'On native shore 37-66.
3 *Fathers, grandfathers stood upon this land, NS-58:
   Father, grandfather stood upon this land, 66.
4 *And here the issue of our loins shall stand.' NS:
   And here the pilgrims from our loins shall stand.' YP, 37-58:
   And here the pilgrims from our loins will stand.' 66.
5 hey-day; NS, YP: heyday: 37-58: hey-day: 66.
6 *But death's NS, YP: But Death's 37-66.
   *soft answer NS-58: low answer 66.
7 Or an unlucky May: NS, YP: Or an unlucky May. 37-66.
8 (stanza break) NS(?): (no stanza break) YP: (stanza break) 37, 38:
   (no stanza break) 45-66.
9 inside it NS-38: inside it, 45-66.
10 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
11 a bailiff's order NS-38: a bailiff's order, 45-66.
12 and the bathing beach; NS, YP: and the bathing beach, 37-66.
13 think in their hearts NS, YP: think in their hearts, 37-66.
14 from their constant humour, NS, YP: from their constant humour: 37-66.
15 *And slyly NS, YP: And shyly 37, 38: And slyly 45-66.
   *death's coercive rumour NS, YP: Death's coercive rumour 37-66.
16 *In the silence starts. NS-58: /In that moment starts. 66.
17 of Narcissus NS-38: of Narcissus, 45-66.
18 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
19 disgraceful NS-38: disgraceful, 45-66.
20 *Change the partner and dance while you can. NS, YP:
   Change your partner, dance while you can. 37-66.
21 and me; NS, YP: and me. 37-66.
22 Our grass is green and NS, YP: Our grass is green, and 37-66.
23 *Till his storm of pleasure dies: NS-58: (dies; NS, YP:)
   Till the storm of pleasure dies: 66.
24 And his voice replies: NS, YP: And his voice replies. 37-66.
25 The greater the love the more false to its object NS, YP:
   The greater the love, the more false to its object 37, 38:
   The greater the love, the more false to its object, 45-66.
26 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
27 to throttle NS-38; to throttle, 45-66,
45 *Break the embrace and dance while you can. NS, YP:
   Break the embraces, dance while you can. 37-66.
48 out of heaven; NS-38: out of heaven, 45-66.
49 *The laurel springing NS-45: The laurels, springing 50, 58:
   The laurel springing 66.
   *from the martyr's blood, NS, YP: from the martyrs' blood; 37, 38:
   from the martyrs' blood, 45-58: from the martyr's blood 66.
50 *where the weepers NS-58: where the weeper 66.
   stood, NS, YP: stood; 37, 38: stood, 45-66.
51 *The lovers natural and NS, YP: The lovers natural, and 37, 38: The lovers
   natural and 45: The lover's natural and 50, 58: The lovers natural and 66.
53 *Till day a sobriety bring; NS, YP: /Till day their sobriety bring: 37-66.
55 and nesting lie NS, YP: and nesting lie, 37-66.
56/57 (stanza break) NS-38: (no stanza break YP): (no stanza break) 45-66.
57 as crooked as corkscrews NS-38: as crooked as corkscrews, 45-66.
58 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
59 The second best is a formal order NS-38:
   The second-best is a formal order; 45-66.
60 The dance's pattern; dance NS, YP: The dance's pattern, dance 37, 38:
   The dance's pattern: Dance 45: The dance's pattern; Dance 50, 58:
   The dance's pattern; dance 66.
61 for the figure is easy NS-38: for the figure is easy, 45-66.
62 and will not stop NS-38: and will not stop; 45-66.
63 *Dance till the stars come down with the rafters NS-38:
   Dance till the stars come down with the rafters; 45-58:
   Dance till the stars come down from the rafters; 66.

JOURNEY TO A WAR(1939)

Here, though the bombs are real and dangerous,
   ‘Sonnets from China, XXI(To E.M. Forster)’; SP 1968; JW2, 5, ‘(To E.M.
   Forster)’]
1-4 *Here, though the bombs are real and dangerous,
   And Italy and King's are far away,
   And we're afraid that you will speak to us,
   You promise still the inner life shall pay. 39-50;
   Though Italy and King's are far away,
And Truth a subject only bombs discuss,
Our ears unfriendly, still you speak to us,
Insisting that the inner life can pay. 66, 68; 73.

5 *As we run down the slope of Hate with gladness 39-50:
As we dash down the slope of hate with gladness, 66, 68; 73.

7 *And just as we are closeted with Madness 39-50:
And, just when we are closeted with madness, 66, 68; 73.

9 *For we are Lucy, Turton, Philip, we 39-50:
Yes, we are Lucy, Turton, Philip: we 66, 68; 73.

10-11 *are excited/To join 39-50: are delighted/To join 66, 68; 73.

12 Where Reason is denied and Love ignored: 39-50:
Where reason is denied and love ignored, 66, 68; 73.

14 *with the sword. 39-50: with a sword. 66, 68; 73.

Where does the journey look which the watcher upon the quay,

1 *the journey 39-50: this journey 66, 73.

2 so bitterly envies? 39-50: so bitterly envies, 66, 73.

3-4 *When the mountains swim away with slow calm strokes, and the gulls
Abandon their vow? Does it still promise the Juster Life? 39-50:
As the mountains swim away with slow calm strokes
And the gulls abandon their vow? Does it promise a juster life? 66, 73.

5-8 *And, alone with his heart at last, does the traveller find
In the vaguer touch of the wind and the fickle flash of the sea
Proofs that somewhere there exists, really, the Good Place,
As certain as those the children find in stones and holes? 39-50:
Alone with his heart at last, does the fortunate traveller find
In the vague touch of a breeze, the fickle flash of a wave,
Proofs that somewhere exists, really, the Good Place,
Convincing as those that children find in stones and holes? 66, 73.

10-11 *The journey is false; the false journey really an illness
On the false island where the heart cannot act and will not suffer: 39-50:
His journey is false, his unreal excitement really an illness
On a false island where the heart cannot act and will not suffer: 66, 73.

12 *He condones the fever; 39-50: He condones his fever; 66, 73.

13 *But at moments, as when the real dolphins with leap and abandon 39-50:
But at moments, as when real dolphins with leap and panache 66, 73.

14 Cajole for recognition, or, far away, 39-50:
Cajole for recognition or, far away, 66; 73.

15 *the trance is broken: 39-50: his trance is broken: 66, 73.

15-16 *he remembers/The hours, the places where he was well; 39-50;
he remembers/Times and places where he was well; 66, 73.
16 he believes in joy. 39-50: he believes in joy, 66, 73.
17-20 *And maybe the fever shall have a cure, the true journey an end
Where hearts meet and are really true: and away this sea that parts
The hearts that alter, but is the same, always; and goes
Everywhere, joining the false and the true, but cannot suffer. 39-50:
That, maybe, his fever shall find a cure, the true journey an end
Where hearts meet and are really true, and crossed this ocean, that parts
Hearts which alter but is the same always, that goes
Everywhere, as truth and falsehood go, but cannot suffer. 66, 73.

Did it once issue from the carver’s hand

[CJW, 19, ‘The Sphinx’; SP 1940, ‘Three Sonnets, 1’; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958;

4 *A Presence in the hot invaded land. 39-58:
An ailing lion crouched on dirty sand. 66; 73.
5-6 *The lion of a tortured stubborn star,
It does not like the young, nor love, nor learning: 39-58:
We gape, then go uneasily away:
It does not like the young nor love nor learning. 66; 73.
7-8 Time hurt it like a person; it lies, turning/A vast behind 39-58:
Time hurt it like a person: it lies turning/A vast behind 66; 73.
8 on shrill America, 39-45: on shrill America. 50: on shrill America, 58, 66; 73.
9 The huge hurt face accuses, 39-58: The huge hurt face accuses 66; 73.
10 least of all success. 39-58: least of all success: 66; 73.
11 *The answers that it utters have no uses 39-58:
What counsel it might offer it refuses 66; 73.
11/12 (stanza break) 39, 40: (indeterminable) 45: (no stanza break) 50:
(stanza break) 58: (no stanza break) 66; 73.
12 its distress: 39-58: its distress. 66; 73.
12/13 (no stanza break) 39-58: (stanza break) 66; 73.
13 No. 39-58: No. 66; 73.
14 The lion: 39-58: The lion. 66; 73. Yes. 39-58: Yes. 66; 73.

The streets are brightly lit; our city is kept clean:


1 *The streets 38-50: All streets 66; 73. clean: 38-50: clean; 66; 73.
2 *The third class have the greasiest cards, the first play high; 38-50:
Her Third-Class deal from greasy packs, her First bid high; 66; 73.
3 *The beggars sleeping in the bows have never seen 38-50:
Her beggars banished to the bows have never seen 66; 73.
4 in staterooms; 38-50: in state-rooms: 66; 73.
asks why 38: asks why. 39-66; 73.
5 *sportsmen playing ball; 38-50: athletes playing ball, 66; 73.
6 *One doubts the honour, one the beauty, of his wife; 38-50:
One doubts the virtue, one the beauty of his wife, 66; 73.
7 A boy’s ambitious; perhaps the captain hates us all; 38-50;
A boy’s ambitious: perhaps the Captain hates us all; 66; 73.
8 Someone, perhaps, is leading 38: Someone perhaps is leading 39-66; 73.
*the civilised life. 38: the civilized life. 39-50: a civilised life. 66; 73.
9 *It is our culture that with such calm progresses 38-50:
Slowly our Western culture in full pomp progresses 66; 73.
somewhere ahead, 38: somewhere ahead 39-66; 73.
11 *The septic East, a war, new flowers and new dresses. 38-50:
A septic East, odd fowl and flowers, odder dresses: 66; 73.
12 a strange and shrewd to-morrow 38: a strange and shrewd To-morrow 39-66; 73. (Tomorrow 45:)
goes to bed, 38: goes to bed 39-50: goes to bed, 66; 73.
13 *Planning the test 38-50: Planning a test 66; 73.
for men from Europe: 38: for men from Europe; 39-66; 73.

Holding the distance up before his face
CSP 1950]
1 face, 38: face 39-50.
7-8 The one who loves another far away, /And has a home 38:
The One who loves Another far away, /And has a home, 39-50.
11 The soft, the sweet, the Easily-Accepted; 38:
The Soft, the Sweet, the Easily-Accepted; 39-50.

A weed from Catholic Europe, it took root
JW 2, ‘A Voyage: V. Macao’ ]
2 *Between the yellow mountains and the sea, 39-58:
Between some yellow mountains and a sea, 66; 73.
3-4 *And bore these gay stone houses like a fruit,
And grew on China imperceptibly. 39-58:
Its gay stone houses an exotic fruit,
A Portugal-cum-China oddity. 66; 73,
6 *Promise her gamblers fortunes when they die; 39-58:
   Promise its gamblers fortunes when they die, 66; 73.
7 *Churches beside the brothels 39-58: Churches alongside brothels 66; 73.
8 *natural behaviour. 39-58: natural behavior. 66; 73.
9-11 *This city of indulgence need not fear
   The major sins by which the heart is killed,
   And governments and men are torn to pieces: 39-58:
   A town of such indulgence need not fear
   Those mortal sins by which the strong are killed
   And limbs and governments are torn to pieces: 66; 73.
12 Religious clocks will strike; 39-58: Religious clocks will strike, 66; 73.
13 the low virtues of the child; 39-58: the low virtues of the child, 66; 73.

The leading characters are wise and witty;
   Hong Kong'; JW₂, 'A Voyage: IV. Hong Kong']
2-4 *Substantial men of birth and education
   With wide experience of administration,
   They know the manners of a modern city. 39-50:
   Their suits well-tailored, and they wear them well,
   Have many a polished parable to tell
   About the mores of a trading city. 66; 73.
5 enter unexpected; 39-50: enter unexpected, 66; 73.
6 *Their silence has a fresh dramatic use: 39-50;
   Their silent movements make dramatic news; 66; 73.
7 *the bankers have erected 39-50: our bankers have erected 66; 73.
9 and What's-her-name, 39-50: and What's-Her-Name 66; 73.
10 *The bugle on the Late Victorian hill 39-50:
   A bugle on this Late Victorian hill 66; 73.
13-14 *we cannot postulate a General Will;
   For what we are, we have ourselves to blame. 39-50:
   Each has his comic role in life to fill,
   Though Life be neither comic nor a game. 66; 73.

So from the years the gifts were showered; each
   [JW, 259, 'In Time of War, I'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China,
   I'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, I']
1 *the gifts were showered; 39-50: their gifts were showered: 66-73.
2 *Ran off with his at once into his life: 39-50:
   Grabbed at the one it needed to survive; 66-73. (neded 68.)
3-4 *Bee took the politics that make a hive,
Fish swam as fish, peach settled into peach. 39-50:
  Bee took the politics that suit a hive,
  Trout finned as trout, peach moulded into peach, 66-73.
5 *at the first endeavour; 39-50: at their first endeavour. 66-73.
6 *at college, 39-50: in college, 66-73.
8 *And knew their station and were good for ever. 39-50:
  To know their station and be right for ever. 66-73.
9 Till finally there came 39-50: Till, finally, there came 66-73.
11 *And fake with ease a leopard or a dove; 39-50:
  Fake, as chance fell, a leopard or a dove, 66-73.
12-13 *Who by the lightest wind was changed and shaken,
  And looked for truth and was continually mistaken,
  And envied his few friends and chose his love. 39-50:
  Who by the gentlest wind was rudely shaken,
  Who looked for truth but always was mistaken,
  And envied his few friends, and chose his love. 66-73.

They wondered why the fruit had been forbidden;
[JW, 260, ‘In Time of War, II’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Sonnets from China,
II’; SP 1968; JW, ‘In Time of War, II’]
1 forbidden; 39-50: forbidden: 66-73.
3 when they were chidden; 39-50: when they were chidden: 66-73.
5 They left: immediately the memory faded 39-50:
  They left. Immediately the memory faded 66-73.
6 *Of all they’d learnt; 39-50: Of all they’d known: 66-73.
7 who, before, had 39-50: who before had 66-73.
10-11 *In front, maturity, as he ascended,/Retired like a horizon 39-50:
  In front maturity as he ascended/Retired like a horizon 66-73.
11 from the child; 39-50: from the child, 66-73.
12 grew greater; 39-50: grew greater, 66-73.

Only a smell had feelings to make known,
[JW, 261, ‘In Time of War, III’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Sonnets from China,
III’; SP 1968; JW, ‘In Time of War, III’]
2 in a direction; 39-50: in a direction, 66-73.
3 was itself alone; 39-50: was itself alone: 66-73.
4-5 *The bird meant nothing: that was his projection//
  Who named it as he hunted it for food. 39-50:
  He, though, by naming thought to make connection//
  Between himself as hunter and his food; 66-73.
6 in his throat, and 39-50: in his throat and 66-73,
7-8 *That he could send his servant to the wood,
   Or kiss his bride to rapture with a sound. 39-50:
That he could send a servant to chop wood
Or kiss a girl to rapture with a sound. 66-73.
10-11 *and he was abject,/And to his own creation became subject; 39-50:
   confused and abject,/A creature to his own creation subject, 66-73.
12 *And shook with hate 39-50: He shook with hate 66-73.
13 *And knew of love without love's proper object, 39-50:
   Pined for a love abstracted from its object, 66-73.

He stayed: and was imprisoned in possession.
[JW, 262, 'In Time of War, IV'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China,
IV'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, IV')
1 stayed: 39-50: stayed, 66-73:
2 *The seasons stood like guards about his ways, 39-50:
   By turns the seasons guarded his one way, 66-73.
4 *And like a conscience the sun ruled his days. 39-50:
   In lieu of conscience the sun ruled his day. 66-73.
5 Beyond him 39-50: Beyond him, 66-73.
6 *unnatural course, 39-50: unnatural courses, 66-73.
8 *And treated strangers like a favourite horse. 39-50:
   Far less afraid of strangers than of horses. 66-73.
9 *And he changed little, 39-50: /He, though, changed little, 66-73.
11 And grew in likeness to his sheep and cattle. 39-50:
   And grew in likeness to his fowls and cattle. 66-73.
13-14 *The poet wept and saw in him the truth,
   And the oppressor held him up as an example. 39-50:
   Unhappy poets took him for the truth,
   And tyrants held him up as an example. 66-73.

His generous bearing was a new invention:
[JW, 263, 'In Time of War, V'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China,
V'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, V')
1-2 *His generous bearing was a new invention:
   For life was slow; earth needed to be careless: 39-50:
   His care-free swagger was a fine invention:
   Life was too slow, too regular, too grave. 66-73.
3 he drew the girls' attention; 39-50: he drew the girls' attention, 66-73.
4-5 *He was the Rich, the Bountiful, the Fearless.//
   And to the young he came as a salvation; 39-50;
A conquering hero, bountiful and brave,  
To whom teen-agers looked for liberation: 66-73.

6-8 *They needed him to free them from their mothers,  
And grew sharp-witted in the long migration,  
And round his camp fires learnt all men are brothers. 39-50:  
At his command they left behind their mothers,  
Their wits were sharpened by the long migration,  
His camp-fires taught them all the horde were brothers. 66-73.

9-11 *But suddenly the earth was full: he was not wanted.  
And he became the shabby and demented,  
And took to drink to screw his nerves to murder; 39-50:  
Till what he came to do was done: unwanted,  
Grown seedy, paunchy, pouchy, disappointed,  
He took to drink to screw his nerves to murder, 66-73.

13-14 *And spoke approvingly of Law and Order,  
And hated life with all his soul. 39-50:  
Boomed at his children about Law and Order,  
And hated life with heart and soul. 66-73.

He watched the stars and noted birds in flight;  
[JW, 264, ‘In Time of War, VI’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Sonnets from China, VI’; SP 1968; JW 2, ‘In Time of War, VI’]

2-3 *The rivers flooded or the Empire fell:  
He made predictions and was sometimes right; 39-50:  
A river flooded or a fortress fell:  
He made predictions that were sometimes right; 66-73.

5-6 *And fell in love with Truth before he knew her,  
And rode 39-50:  
Falling in love with Truth before he knew Her,  
He rode 66-73.

7 *With solitude and fasting hoped to woo her, 39-50:  
By solitude and fasting hoped to woo Her, 66-73.

8 who served her 39-50: who served Her 66-73.

9-12 *But her he never wanted to despise,  
But listened always for her voice; and when  
She beckoned to him, he obeyed in meekness,  
And followed her and looked into her eyes; 39-50:  
Drawn as he was to magic and obliqueness,  
In Her he honestly believed, and when  
At last She beckoned to him he obeyed,  
Looked in Her eyes: awe-struck but unafraid, 66-73.

14 *And saw himself 39-50: And knew himself 66-73.

He was their servant—some say he was blind—  
‘Sonnets from China, VII’; SP 1968; JW 2, ‘In Time of War, VII’]
—some say he was blind— 39-58: (some say he was blind), 66-73.

2 *And moved among their faces and their things; 39-58:
Who moved among their faces and their things: 66-73.

4 *And sang: they cried—'It is a God that sings'— 39-58:
And sang. They cried 'It is a God that sings', 66-73.

5-7 *And worshipped him and set him up apart,
And made him vain, till he mistook for song
The little tremors of his mind and heart 39-58: (vain 58:)
And honoured him, a person set apart,
Till he grew vain, mistook for personal song
The petty tremors of his mind or heart 66-73.

9-10 *Songs came no more: he had to make them.
With what precision was each strophe planned. 39-58:
Lines came to him no more; he had to make them
(With what precision was each strophe planned): 66-73.

11-12 *He hugged his sorrow like a plot of land, //And walked 39-58:
Hugging his gloom as peasants hug their land, //He stalked 66-73.

13 *And looked at men and did not like them, 39-58:
And glared at men because he did not like them, 66-73.

He turned his field into a meeting-place,

2-4 *And grew the tolerant ironic eye,
And formed the mobile money-changer’s face,
And found the notion of equality. 39-50:
Evolved a tolerant ironic eye,
Put on a mobile money-changer’s face,
Took up the doctrine of Equality. 66-73.

5-6 *And strangers were as brothers to his clocks,
And with his spires he made a human sky; 39-50:
Strangers were hailed as brothers by his clocks,
With roof and spire he built a human sky, 66-73.

7-8 *Museums stored his learning like a box,
And paper watched his money like a spy. 39-50:
Stored random facts in a museum box,
To watch his treasure set a paper spy. 66-73.

9 *It grew so fast 39-50: All grew so fast 66-73.

10 *And he forgot what once it had been made for, 39-50:
Till he forgot what all had once been made for: 66-73.

11 *And gathered into crowds and was alone, 39-50:
He gathered into crowds but was alone, 66-73.
13 *And could not find the earth 39-50: No more could touch the earth 66-73.
14 *Nor feel the love that he knew 39-50:
   Nor feel the love which he knew 66-73.

They died and entered the closed life like nuns:

[JW, 267, 'In Time of War, IX'; CP; CSP 1950]
(No alterations between the three versions.)

As a young child the wisest could adore him;

[JW, 268, 'In Time of War, X'; CP; CSP 1950]
(No difference between the three versions.)

He looked in all His wisdom from the throne

[JW, 269, 'In Time of War, XI'; Common Sense, April 1939*; SP 1940, 'Three Sonnets, 2'; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'Ganymede'; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, IX'; SP 1968; JW*2, 'In Time of War, IX']

1 *from the throne 39-58: from His throne 66, 68: from His Throne 73.
2 *Down on the humble boy 39-50: Down on that humble boy 58:
   Down on the humble boy 66-73.
   *who kept the sheep, 39-58: who herded sheep, 66-73.
3 And sent a dove; the dove 39-58: And sent a dove. The dove 66-73.
4 *Youth liked the music, but soon fell asleep. 39-58:
   Song put a charmed rusticity to sleep. 66-73.
5 *for the youth: 39-58: for this youth: 66-73.
   to compel; 39-50: to compel. 58: to compel, 66-73.
7-8 *For later he would come to love the truth,/And own his gratitude. 39-58:
   To count on time to bring true love of truth/And, with it, gratitude. 66-73.
8 *The eagle fell. 39-50 (The eagle fell. 40): His eagle fell. 58-73.
9 It did not work: his 39-50: It did not work. His 58: It did not work: His 66-73.
10 The boy who 39-58: The boy, who 66-73.
11 from fatherly embraces; 39-58: from fatherly embraces, 66-73.
12 *But with the eagle he was always willing 39-58:
   But with His messenger was always willing 66-73.
13-14 *and adored/And learnt from it 39-58:
   and adored,/And learned from it 66-73.
14 *the many ways of killing. 39-50: so many ways of killing. 58-73.

And the age ended, and the last deliverer died
And the age ended, 36-45: And the aged ended, 50: So an age ended, 58-73.

*of the giant's enormous calf 36-50: of a giant's enormous calf 58-73.

*across the lawn outside. 36-50: across their lawns outside. 58-73.

*No, not again. In marshes here and there, no doubt, 36:

They slept in peace: in marshes here and there, no doubt 39-73.

to a natural death; 36: to a natural death, 39-73.

But in a year the spoor had vanished 36-58: But in a year the slot had vanished 66-73.

from the heath: 36: from the heath; 39-50:

from the heath: 58: from the heath; 66-73.

The kobold's knocking 36: The kobold's knocking 39-50:

A kobold's knocking 58-73.

*Only the sculptors and musicians 36: Only the sculptors and the poets 39-73.

were half-sad, 36: were half sad, 39-58: were half-sad, 66-73.

*at the magician's house 36: from the magician's house 39-73.


and free; 36: and free; 39-50: and free; 58-73.

*Struck down the son, indifferent to the mother's curse, 36:

Struck down the sons who strayed into their course, 39-58:

Struck down the silly sons who strayed into their course, 66-73.

Certainly praise: let the song mount again and again

[JW, 271, 'In Time of War, XIII'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XI'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, XI']

*let the song mount 39-50: let song mount 66-73.

For the vegetable patience, the animal grace;

Some people have been happy; there have been great men. 39-50:

For vegetal patience, for animal courage and grace:

Some have been happy; some, even, were great men. 66-73.


Cities and men have fallen; the will of the Unjust

Has never lost its power; still, all princes must

Employ the Fairly-Noble unifying Lie. 39-50:

Ramparts and souls have fallen; the will of the unjust

Has never lacked an engine; still, all princes must

Employ the fairly-noble unifying lie. 66-73.

to our buoyant song: 39-50: to our buoyant song, 66-73.
10-11 *The Good Place has not been; our star has warmed to birth
A race of promise that has never proved its worth; 39-50:
To our hope its warning. One star has warmed to birth
One puzzled species that has yet to prove its worth: 66-73.

12 The quick new West is false; 39-50: The quick new West is false, 66-73.
12-13 *and prodigious, but wrong/This passive flower-like people 39-50:
and prodigious but wrong/The flower-like Hundred Families 66-73.

14 *have constructed the earth. 39-50: have modified the earth. 66-73.

Yes, we are going to suffer, now; the sky
(JW, 272, ‘In Time of War, XIV’; CP; CSP 1950)
(No revision.)

Engines bear them through the sky: they’re free
(JW, 273, ‘In Time of War, XV’; CP; CSP 1950)
(No revision.)

Here war is simple like a monument:
(JW, 274, ‘In Time of War, XVI’; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Sonnets from
China, XII’; SP 1968; JW₂, ‘In Time of War, XII’)
1 *war is simple 39-50: war is harmless 66-73.
2 *A telephone is speaking to a man; 39-50:
   A telephone is talking to a man; 66-73.
3 *Flags on a map assert that troops were sent; 39-50:
   Flags on a map declare that troops were sent; 66-73.
7 *And can be lost and are, and miss their wives, 39-50:
   Who can be lost and are, who miss their wives 66-73.
9-11 *But ideas can be true although men die,
   And we can watch a thousand faces
   Made active by one lie: 39-50:
   Yet ideas can be true, although men die:
   For we have seen a myriad faces
   Ecstatic from one lie, 66-73.
13-14 Where life is evil now:/Nanking; Dachau. 39-50:
   Where life is evil now./Nanking. Dachau. 66-73.

They are and suffer; that is all they do:
(JW, 275, ‘In Time of War, XVII’; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958, ‘Surgical Ward’;
CSP 1966, ‘Sonnets from China, XIV’; SP 1968; JW₂, ‘In Time of War, XIV’)
1 all they do: 39: all they do; 45-58: all they do: 66-73.
4 *The treatment that the instruments are giving. 39-58:
A treatment metal instruments are giving. 66-73.

5 *And lie apart like epochs 39-58: They lie apart like epochs 66-73.

6-7 —Truth in their sense is how much they can bear;
   It is not talk like ours, but groans they smother— 39-58:
   (Truth in their sense is how much they can bear;
   It is not talk like ours but groans they smother), 66-73.

8 *And are remote as plants; 39-58: From us remote as plants; 66-73.

11-13 *But are boist'rous in a moment and believe/
   In the common world of the uninjured, and cannot
   Imagine isolation. Only happiness is shared, 39-58:
   But are boisterous in a moment and believe
   Reality is never injured, cannot
   Imagine isolation: joy can be shared, 66-73.

Far from the heart of culture he was used:
[New Statesman, 2 July 1938, 'Chinese Soldier'; JW, 276, 'In Time of War, XVIII';
CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XIII'; SP 1968; JW 2,
'In Time of War, XIII']

1 *Far from the heart of culture 38-50: Far from a cultural centre 66-73.

3 *Under a padded quilt he closed his eyes 38-50:
   Under a padded quilt he turned to ice 66-73.

4 *He will not be introduced 38-50: He will never be perused 66-73.

9-10 *Professors of Europe, hostess, citizen,
   Respect this boy. Unknown to your reporters 38:
   He neither knew nor chose the Good, but taught us,
   And added meaning like a comma, when 39-50:
   Though runeless, to instructions from headquarters
   He added meaning like a comma when 66-73.

11 *He turned to dust in China 38-50: He joined the dust of China, 66-73.

12-13 *and not again/Disgraced before the dogs; 38-50:
   not again/Be shamed before the dogs, 66-73.

But in the evening the oppression lifted;
[JW, 277, 'In Time of War, XIX'; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'Embassy'; CSP 1966,
'Sonnets from China, XV'; SP 1968; JW 2, 'In Time of War, XV']

1 *But in the evening the oppression lifted; 39-50:
As evening fell the day's oppression lifted; 58-73.

2 *The peaks 39-50: Far peaks 58; Tall peaks 66-73.

3 *Across the lawns 39-50: Across wide lawns 58-73.

   their shoes; 39, 45: their shoes; 50, 58: their shoes; 66-73.


8 *It seemed a picture of the private life. 39-58:
   It looked a picture of the way to live. 66-73.

10-11 *The armies waited for a verbal error
   With all the instruments for causing pain: 39-58:
      Two armies waited for a verbal error
   With well-made implements for causing pain, 66-73.

13-14 *A land laid waste, with all its young men slain,
   The women weeping and the towns in terror. 39-50:
      A land laid waste with all its young men slain,
   Its women weeping and its towns in terror. 58-73. (13 waste, 58:)

They carry terror with them like a purse,

[JW, 278, 'In Time of War, XX'; CP; CSP 1950]

11 *The prisoner ought never to pardon his cell. 39:
   Ought the prisoner ever to pardon his cell, 45, 50.

The life of man is never quite completed;

[New Writing, Autumn 1938, 'Exiles'; New Republic, 7 December 1938*; JW, 279, 'In Time of War, XXI'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XVI'; SP 1968; JW 2, 'In Time of War, XVI']

(38 designates the New Writing version below.)

1 *The course of man is never quite completed, 38:
   The life of man is never quite completed; 39-50:
      Our global story is not yet completed, 66-73.

2 *The daring and the chatter will go on: 38-50: (will go on; 38:)
   Crime, daring, commerce, chatter will go on, 66, 68:
      Crime, caring, commerce, chatter will go on, 73.

3-4 *But, as an artist feels his power gone,
   These walk the earth and know themselves defeated. 38-50:
      But, as narrators find their memory gone,
   Homeless, disterred, these know themselves defeated. 66-73.

5-6 *Some could not bear nor break the young and mourn for
   The wounded myths that once made nations good, 38-50:(5 the young, 38:)
      Some could not like nor change the young and mourn for
   Some wounded myth that once made children good, 66-73.

9-10 *anxiety/Receives them 38: Anxiety/Receives them 39-73.
like a grand hotel; 38-50: like a grand hotel, 66-73.

but where/They may regret, they must; 38: but where/They may regret they must; 39-50: but where/They may regret they must: 66-73.

*their life, to hear/The call of the forbidden cities, 38-50:
their doom to bear/Love for some far forbidden country, 66-73.

*see/The stranger watch them with a happy stare, 38-50:
see/A native disapprove them with a stare 66-73.

*And Freedom hostile in each home and tree. 38-50: (And freedom 38:)
And Freedom's back in every door and tree, 66-73.

Simple like all dream wishes, they employ


2 The elementary language of the heart, 39-50:
   The elementary rhythms of the heart, 66-73.

3 *And speak to muscles of the need for joy: 39-50: (for joy; 45, 50:)
   Speak to our muscles of a need for joy: 66-73.

4 *and the lovers soon to part 39-50: and the lovers bound to part 66-73.


6 in our position; 39-50: in our position, 66-73.

7-8 *They are our evidence of what we do;
   They speak directly to our lost condition. 39-50:
   They are our evidence of how we do,
   The very echoes of our lost condition. 66-73.

9 what pleased the dancers best; 39-50:
   what pleased the daners best, 66-73.

10 *When Austria died and China was forsaken, 39-50:
   When Austria died, when China was forsaken, 66-73.


13-14 *America addressed/The earth: 'Do you love me as I love you?' 39-50:
   America addressed/Mankind: Do you love me as I love you? 66-73.

12 before the world; 39: before the world: 45-73.

12-13 **Partout/Il y a de la joie.' 39, 45: 'Partout/Il y a de la joie'. 50:
   Partout/Il y a de la joie. 66: Partout/Il a de la joie. 68, 73.

When all the apparatus of report

1 *all the 39-50: all our 66-73.
2 of our enemies; 39-50: of our enemies, 66-73.

3-4 *Our bastion pierced, our army in retreat,
Violence successful like a new disease, 39-50:
Our frontier crossed, our forces in retreat,
Violence pandemic like a new disease, 66-73.

5 everywhere invited; 39-50: everywhere invited, 66-73.

6-7 *When we regret that we were ever born:
Let us remember all who seemed deserted. 39-50:
When Generosity gets nothing done,
Let us remember those who looked deserted: 66-73.

8-10 *To-night in China let me think of one,/
Who through ten years of silence worked and waited,
Until in Muzot all his powers spoke, 39-50:(8 Tonight 45:)
To-night in China let me think of one/
Who for ten years of drought and silence waited,
Until in Muzot all his being spoke, 66-73.


12-14 *And with the gratitude of the Completed
He went out in the winter night to stroke
That little tower like a great animal. 39-50:
Awed, grateful, tired, content to die, completed,
He went out in the winter night to stroke
That tower as one pets an animal. 66-73.

No, not their names. It was the others who built
[JW, 'In Time of War, XXIV'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XX'; SP 1968; JW 2, 'In Time of War, XX']

1-5 *No, not their names. It was the others who built
Each great coercive avenue and square,
Where men can only recollect and stare,
The really lonely with the sense of guilt;//
Who wanted to persist like that for ever; 39-50; (3 man 45, 50:)

Who needs their names? Another genus built
Those dictatorial avenues and squares,
Gigantic terraces, imposing stairs,
Men of a sorry kennel, racked by guilt,//
Who wanted to persist in stone for ever: 66-73.

6-9 *The unloved had to leave material traces:
But these need nothing but our better faces,
And dwell in them, and know that we shall never;//
Remember who we are nor why we're needed. 39-50;

Unloved, they had to leave material traces,
But these desired no statues but our faces,
To dwell there incognito, glad we never//
Can dwell on what they suffered, loved or were. 66-73.

11-13 *Or hills a shepherd; they grew ripe and seeded; //
   And the seeds clung to us; even our blood
   Was able to receive them; and they grew again; 39-50:
   Or hills a shepherd. While they breathed, the air //
   All breathe took on a virtue; in our blood,
   If we allow them, they can breathe again: 66-73.

Nothing is given: we must find our law.


1 *Nothing is given: we must find our law. 39-50:
   No guidance can be found in ancient lore; 66, 73.

2 *Great buildings jostle in the sun for domination; 39-50:
   Banks jostle in the sun for domination, 66, 73.

5 assigned us: 39-50: assigned us, 66, 73.

6 *Nothing is certain but the body; we plan 39-50:
   No data but our bodies: we plan 66, 73.

7 *the hospitals alone remind us 39-50: bleak hospitals alone remind us 66, 73.

10-12 *They speak of years before the big were lonely,
   And will be lost. //And only 39-50:
   They speak of years before the big were lonely.
   Here will be no recurrence. //Only 66, 73.

13 The brass bands throbbing 39-50: The brass-bands throbbing 66, 73.

Always far from the centre of our names,

[JW, 284, 'In Time of War, XXVI'; CP; CSP 1950]


Wandering lost upon the mountains of our choice,

(The Listener, 3 November 1938, 'Sonnet'; JW, 285, 'In Time of War, XXVII';
CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XVIII'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, XVIII')

1-4 *Wandering lost upon the mountains of our choice,
   Again and again we sigh for an ancient South,
   For the warm nude ages of instinctive poise,
   For the taste of joy in the innocent mouth. 38-50:
   Chilled by the Present, its gloom and its noise,
   On waking we sigh for an ancient South,
   A warm nude age of instinctive poise,
   A taste of joy in an innocent mouth. 66-73.

5-8 *Asleep in our huts, how we dream of a part
In the glorious balls of the future; each intricate maze
Has a plan, and the disciplined movements of the heart
Can follow for ever and ever its harmless ways. 38-50;

(5 *And asleep 38: Asleep 39-50;)
At night in our huts we dream of a part
In the balls of the Future: each ritual maze
Has a musical plan, and a musical heart
Can faultlessly follow its faultless ways. 66-73.

9 that are sure; 38: that are sure: 39-50: that are sure, 66-73.
10 *But we are articulated to error; we 38-50: (error, 38:)
   But, doubtful, articulated to error, we 66-73.
11 *Were never nude and calm 38-73:
   Were nude and calm 68(probably a misprint).
   *like a great door, 38-50: as a great door, 66-73.
12 *perfect like the fountains: 38: perfect like the fountains; 39-50:
   faultless like our fountains: 66-73.

Season inherits legally from dying season;
[JW, 289-301, ‘Commentary’; SP 1940, ‘No. 24: Night falls on China; the great
arc of travelling shadow’ (ll. 250-283 are taken); CP; CSP 1950; JW2, 259-
272, ‘Commentary’]
(Stanzas and lines between ll. 100-128 are adapted from five sections of ‘Speech
from a Play’, New Verse, No. 13, February 1935; NV designates the New Verse
version below. The type-setting of the larger part of the 73 version appears to
be identical with that of JW1(1939) version.)
27 *Tarim nursed them; 39, 45; 73: Tarin nursed them; 50.
37 reconciliation, 39, 45; 73: reconciliation 50.
88 *Upon its ruins rose the Universal Churches: 39:
   Upon its ruins rose the Plainly Visible Churches: 45, 50; 73.
93 *And the Eternal Nightmare waited to devour the wicked. 39:
   And the Eternal Nightmare waited to devour the doubters. 45, 50; 73.
100-102 And the body became its beautiful pet
   To roast in the kitchen and run the house
   While the mind in its study spoke with its God,  NV, ll. 12-14.
   The body nothing but a useful favourite machine
   To go upon errands of love and to run the house,
   While the mind in its study spoke with its private God. 39-50; 73.
103-104 That wave which was already washing the heart
   When the cruel Turk took Constantine’s city  NV, ll. 5-6.
   But now that wave which already was washing the heart,
   When the cruel Turk stormed the gates of Constantine’s city, 39-50; 73.
107 Today, all spent, 39, 45: To-day, all spent, 50, 73.
Machines created by clergymen and boys
Lured them like magnets from marl and clay
Into towns on the coal measures, crowded and dark
Where the careful with the careless drove a bitter bargain,
But saved in the act the seeds of a hatred
Which, germinating in tenement and gas-lit cellar

('saved' in l. 34 may be a misprint for 'sowed'.)
Machines devised by harmless clergymen and boys
Attracted men like magnets from the marl and clay
Into towns on the coal-measures, to a kind of freedom,
Where the abstinent with the landless drove a bitter bargain,
But sowed in that act the seeds of an experienced hatred,
Which, germinating long in tenement and gas-lit cellar,

('But' in l. 49 may be a misprint for 'That'.)
Fear builds enormous ranges casting shadows,
Heavy, bird-silencing, upon the outer world,
Hills that our grief sighs over like a Shelley,
Because impassable, dividing
But which we feel from that which we perceive
Desire from data, the watershed between

('Man can have Unity if Man will give up Freedom.' 39-50:

("The state is real, the Individual is wicked;
Violence shall synchronize your movements like a tune,
And Terror like a frost shall halt the flood of thinking."

(150 thinking, 50.) (the 50th stanza, cut) 73.

'Your Ignorance keep off evil like a dangerous sea;
You shall be consummated in the General Will,
Your children innocent and charming as the beasts.
165 And Diocletian the administrator make 39; 73: 
And Diocletian the administrator, make 45, 50.

170 despairing of the average man. 39; 73: 
despairing of the average man, 45, 50.

180 a historic role, 39; 73: a historic rôle, 45, 50.

187-189 *While others have accepted Pascal's wager and resolve 
To take whatever happens as the will of God, 
Or with Spinoza vote that evil be unreal. 39; 73:

(one stanza, cut) 45, 50.

220 *Giving us courage 39, 45; 73: Giving courage 50.

223 *in the lovers' bedroom, 39, 45; 73: in the lover's bedroom, 50.

228 *Man can improve himself but never will be perfect, 39, 40; 73: 
Man can improve but never will himself be perfect, 45, 50.

246 *Only a whole and happy conscience can stand up 
And answer their bleak lie; among the just, 
And only there, is Unity compatible with Freedom.* 39-50:

(the 33rd stanza, cut) 73.

255 the slanting radiations 39-45; 73: the slanting radiations. 50.

256 they suffer, 39, 40; 73: they suffer. 45: they suffer 50.

269 *of guerrilla fighting, 39; 73: of guerilla fighting, 40: of guerrilla fighting 45, 50.

270 *The voice of Man: 'O teach me to outgrow my madness. 39, 40: 
The voice of Man: 'O teach us to outgrow our madness. 45, 50:

*The human cry: 'O teach me to outgrow my madness. 73.

271-273 *It's better to be sane than mad, or liked than dreaded; 
It's better to sit down to nice meals than to nasty; 
It's better to sleep two than single; it's better to be happy. 39, 40; 73.

(one stanza, cut) 45, 50.

280-283 *Till they construct at last a human justice, 
The contribution of our star, within the shadow 
Of which uplifting, loving, and constraining power 
All other reasons may rejoice and operate. 39, 40; 73.

*Till, as the contribution of our star, we follow 
The clear instructions of that Justice, in the shadow 
Of Whose uplifting, loving, and constraining power 
All human reasons do rejoice and operate.* 45, 50.
INTRODUCTORY NOTES
This article gives the variant readings in the versions of the poems originally included in *New Year Letter* (Faber and Faber, 1941) and its American edition *The Double Man* (Random House, 1941), and also of all the poems first collected in the *Collected Poetry* (Random House, 1945).

The variants contained in the six kinds of texts of the long poem 'New Year Letter' constituting the main part of *New Year Letter/The Double Man*, though they offer 'knotty' but interesting problems concerning the pedigree or *stemma codicum* of the text, are omitted here. Those problems will, I hope, be discussed in full on some other occasion. So the poems examined here are: the 'Prologue', the pieces of verse composed, or in a few instances previously published in periodicals and used, as 'Notes to Letter', and later collected under separate titles in the 1945 and subsequent collections or preserved as 'Shorts' in the 1966 and 1976 collections (pp. 188-92 and pp. 231-34 respectively), the 'Quest' sonnets, and the 'Epilogue'.

As for the *Collected Poetry* poems, their order in the present list is that of their appearance in that volume.

The first line given at the head of each list is from the *New Year Letter* or *Collected Poetry* text. In the square brackets, periodicals or pamphlets which could not be seen are starred; the title of a version of a poem is not given if it is identical with that of the preceding version; the abbreviations used are as follows:

NYL = *New Year Letter* (Faber and Faber, 1941)
DM = *The Double Man* (Random House, 1941)
CP 45 = *Collected Poetry* (Random House, 1945)
CSP 50 = *Collected Shorter Poems: 1930-1944* (Faber and Faber, 1950)
CSP 66 = *Collected Shorter Poems: 1927-1957* (Faber and Faber, 1966)
SP 68 = *Selected Poems* (Faber and Faber, 1968)
CP 76 = *Collected Poems* (Faber and Faber/Random House, 1976)

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In the list of variants, every verbal change is asterisked. Where the change is a relatively minor one, like that in punctuation or in spelling, a whole line is quoted from the NYL or CP text and the variant reading is shown in round brackets after or under the line.

I wish to thank Professor Edward Mendelson of Yale University, Literary Executor of the Estate of the late W. H. Auden, for his generous permission to quote freely from the work of the poet and for his helpful advice and suggestions. In preparing this essay I have as usual been greatly indebted to W. H. Auden: A Bibliography (University Press of Virginia, 1972) edited by B.C. Bloomfield and Edward Mendelson.

June 30, 1977 Y.S.Y.

NEW YEAR LETTER

PROLOGUE

O season of repetition and return,

(The Allied Relief Ball Souvenir Program, 10 May 1940, 'Spring in Wartime*; Horizon, July 1940; NYL, 'Prologue'; DM; CP 45, 'Spring 1940')

(40, N, and D designate the Horizon, New Year Letter, and The Double Man versions respectively in the following list.)

2 Of light and the primitive visions of light 40-45. (light, 40;)

3 Opened in little ponds disturbing 40-45. (ponds, D, 45.)

4 The blind water that conducts excitement. 40-45. (excitement, 40; 45.)

7-8 *the cell/manoeuvres 40: the cell man-/œuvres N:

the cell ma-/noevres D: the cell ma-/noeuvres 45.

13-14 *With all its appealing private detail. But

Our ways are revealing; crossing the legs 40; D, 45.

With all its appealing private detail; but

Our gestures betray us as, crossing the legs N:

18 And never will be: part of us all hates life, 40-45. (be; 40;)

21 *The park, and the plump little girls, but none 40; D, 45.

The parks, and the plump little girls, but none N:

23 The great communities of summer: 40-45. (Summer; 40;)

24 *Only in hospitals, where the dying 40:

Only on battlefields, where the dying N-45.

25 With low voices and not very much to say 40-45. (say, 40;)

28 Can night return to our cooling fibres. 40-45. (Night 40;)

29 O not even war can frighten us enough; 40-45.

(War 40; (enough, 40; D, 45.)

32 Of something known, even that's a failure 40-45. (known; 40;)
34 *Scared of the unknown unconditional dark, 40, N:
   Scared by the unknown unconditional dark, D, 45.
35 Down the avenues of our longing: 40–45. (longing, 40:)
36 For, however they dream they are scattered, 40–45. (For D, 45.)
38–39 *Into the philosophic city where dwells/The knowledge 40; D, 45.
   Into their philosophic cities to hold/The knowledge N:
40 And neither a Spring nor a War can ever 40–45. (war D, 45.)
41 So condition his ears as to keep the Song 40–45. (song 40; D, 45.)
42 *That is not a sorrow from the Double Man. 40; D, 45.
   That is not a sorrow from the invisible twin: N:

NOTES TO LETTER
Clocks cannot tell our time of day
[N, p. 79; D, p. 75; Furioso, Summer 1941*; CP 45, ‘We’re Late’; CSP 66, ‘No
   Time’; CP 76]
2 For what event to pray N–76. (to pray, 66, 76.)
8 The answer in the statue’s eye: N–76. (eye, 66, 76.)
10 *May wear the roman laurel now; N:
   May wear the Roman laurel now; D–76. (now: 66, 76.)
13 *Death is not understood by death; nor you, nor I. N, 66, 76. (death: 66, 76.)
   Death is not understood by Death; nor You, nor I. D, 45:

Motionless, deep in his mind, lies the past the poet’s forgotten,
[N, p. 86; D, p. 83; CSP 66, the first of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76]
1 (in his mind lies D: in his mind, lies 66, 76.)

How he survived them they could never understand:
[N, pp. 94–95; D, p. 90; CP 45, ‘The Diaspora’; CSP 66, ‘Diaspora’; CP 76]
3 *They could not live without their dogmas and their land? N:
   They could not live without their dogmas or their land? D–76.
7 And he fulfilled the role for which he was designed: N–76. (rôle D, 45:)
9 And was a godsend to the lowest of mankind. N–76. (mankind, 66, 76.)
9/10 (no stanza break) N: (stanza break) D: (indeterminable) 45, 66:
   (stanza break) 76.
10 Till there was no place left where they could still pursue him, N–76.
   (him D–76.)
11 *Except the exile that he called his race: N:
   Except that exile which he called his Race. D–76. (race, 66, 76.)
12 But envying him even that, they plunged right through him N–76.
   (But, envying D–76.)
His aging nature is the same
[N, p. 97; D, p. 93; CP 45, 'True Enough'; CSP 66, the third of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
1 (*aging N-45: ageing 66, 76.)
2 *As when childhood wore its name N-76. (his name 45:)
3 In an atmosphere of love N-76. (of love, 66, 76.)
5 Only now when he has come N-76. (now, when 66, 76.)
6 In walking distance of his tomb N-76. (tomb, D-76.)

Infants in their mother's arms
[N, pp. 102-3; D, pp. 98-99; CSP 66, the 4th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
1 (*Infants N, D: Babies 66, 76.) (mother's N: mothers' D-76.)
6 Objects disobedient still. N-76. (still, 66, 76.)
7 *But the boy comes soon enough N, D:/But the boy comes fast enough 66, 76.
9-10 *And the adult learns how small/Is the individual, N, D:
   And the adult learns what small/Forces rally at his call. 66, 76.
11 *How much stronger is the state N, D:
   Large and paramount the State 66, 76.
13 *With the kingdom of his mind: N, D:/With the Duchy of his mind: 66, 76.
16 *Hostile to his search for truth, N, D: (truth; D:)
   Hostile to his quest for truth; 66, 76.
17 *Never will his sex belong N, D:/Never will his prick belong 66, 76.
19 *Its libido comprehend N, D:/Nor its values comprehend 66, 76.

Do we want to return to the womb? Not at all.
[N, p. 108; D, p. 104; CSP 66, the 5th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
2 No one really desires the impossible. N-76. (impossible: 66, 76.)
10 *Must be Ptolemaic with ourselves at the centre. N-76. (Ptolomaic 66, 76.)

Base words are uttered only by the base
[N, p. 109; D, p. 106; CSP 66, the 9th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
2 *And can, as such, be clearly understood: N, D:
   And can for such at once be understood, 66, 76.
3-4 *But noble platitudes—ah, there's a case
   When the most careful scrutiny is needed N, D:
   But noble platitudes:—ah, there's a case
   Where the most careful scrutiny is needed 66, 76.
5-6 *To tell the orator who's really good
   From one who's base but merely has succeeded. N, D:
   To tell a voice that's genuinely good
   From one that's base but merely has succeeded. 66, 76.
Once for candy cook had stolen
[N, p. 111; D, p. 108; CSP 66, the 6th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
1 (*cook N, D: Cook 66, 76.)
2 X. was punished by Papa. N-76. (X was D-76.) (Papa; D-76.)
3 *When he asked where babies came from N, D:
   When he asked where babies come from, 66, 76.
7 *Keep an eye on aged beggars N, D:/Keep an eye on ageing beggars 66, 76.

The Champion smiles—What Personality!
[N, p. 113; D, pp. 109-10; CSP 66, the 11th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
3 But let the Belt change hands and they change places— N-76. (places, 66, 76.)

These public men who seem so to enjoy their dominion,
[N, pp. 114-15; D, p. 111; CSP 66, the 10th of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
2 *With their ruined faces and their voices treble with hate, N, D:
   With their ruined faces and voices treble with hate, 66, 76.
3 *Are no less martyred because unaware of their fetters: N, D:
   Are no less martyrs because unaware of their fetters: 66, 76.
4 What would you be like were you never allowed to create N-76. (like, 66, 76.)

The Hidden Law does not deny
[N, p. 117; D, p. 113; CP 45, 'Aera sub Lege'; CSP 66, 'The Hidden Law'; CP 76]
8-9 *And legal definitions mar/The Hidden Law. N, D; 66, 76.
   And verbal definitions mar/The Hidden Law. 45:
11 To stop us if we want to die; N-76. (die: 66, 76.)

Hans-in-Kelder, Hans-in-Kelder;
[N, p. 118; D, p. 115; CSP 66, the 18th and last of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
3 We need your strong arm to look after the farm N-76. (farm, 66, 76.)
6 Came out of the parsley-bed, N-76. (parsley-bed; 66, 76.)
7 *Came out at a run and levelled a gun N-76. (leveled D:)

Whether determined by God or their neural structure, still
[N, p. 119; D, p. 116; CP 45, v (as the epigraph; in italics); CSP 50, p. 8 (as the epigraph, in roman); CSP 66, the 2nd of the 'Shorts'; CP 76]
1 (*determined N, D; 66, 76. conditioned 45, 50:) (by God, 45:) (*neutral 50:)
2 *All men have one common creed, account for it as you will: N, D; 66, 76.
   All men have this common creed, account for it as you will: — 45, 50:
3 *The Truth is one and incapable of self-contradiction; N, D; 66, 76.
   The Truth is one and incapable of contradiction; 45, 50:
With what conviction the young man spoke
[N, p. 122; D, p. 120; CSP 66, the 7th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76]

2 When he thought his nonsense rather a joke: N-76. (joke; 66, 76.)
4 *No-one believes the booming old bore. N-76. (No one D-76.)

Standing among the ruins the horrorstruck conqueror exclaimed:
[N, p. 123; D, p. 121; CSP 66, the 14th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76]
1 (ruins N, D: ruins, 66, 76.) (horrorstruck N: horror-struck D-76.)

When statesmen gravely say, ‘We must be realistic’,
[N, p. 123; D, p. 121; CSP 66, the 12th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76]
1 *When statesmen gravely say—‘We must be realistic’— D:
When Statesmen gravely say ‘We must be realistic’, 66, 76.
2 The chances are they’re weak and therefore pacifistic: N-76.
(and, therefore, pacifistic, 66, 76.)
3 But when they speak of Principles—look out—perhaps N-76.
(Principles, look out: perhaps 66, 76.)

‘Don’t you dream of a world, a society with no coercion?’
[N, p. 126; D, p. 124; CSP 66, the 17th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76]
1 (—“Don’t you D: Don’t you 66, 76.) (a society, 66, 76.) (coercion? 66, 76.)
2 ‘Yes, where a foetus is able to refuse to be born.’ N-76.
(—“Yes, D: Yes: 66, 76.) (born.” D: born. 66, 76.)

With conscience cocked to listen for the thunder
[Christian Century, October 1940, ‘Luther’*; N, p. 128, ‘Luther’; D, p. 125; CP 45, ‘Luther’; CSP 66; CP 76]
1 (for the thunder N-45: for the thunder, 66, 76.)
9 *The fuse of Judgement spluttered in his head: N-76. (Judgment D, 45:)
10 ‘Lord, smoke these honeyed insects from their hives; N-76. (hives. 66, 76.)
11 All Works, Great Men, Societies are bad; N-66.
(Societies, D, 45:) (bad. 66, 76.)
12 The Just shall live by Faith’...he cried in dread. N:
The Just shall live by Faith...” he cried in dread. D-76.
13 And men and women of the world were glad N-76. (glad, 66, 76.)
14 *Who never trembled in their useful lives. N-45:
Who’d never cared or trembled in their lives. 66, 76.

Outside his library window he could see
[N, p. 128; D, p. 126; CP 45, ‘Montaigne’; CSP 66; CP 76]
3 Cities where lisping was compulsory N-76. (compulsory, 66, 76.)
5 *The hefty lay exhausted. O it took N-45:
   The hefty sprawled, too tired to care: it took 66, 76.
7 To start a revolution and to give N-76. (revolution, and D, 45:)
11 Love must be regrown from the sensual child; N-76.
   (re-grown 66, 76.) (child: D, 45:  child, 66, 76.)
14 *And laziness an act of pure contrition. N-45:
   And laziness a movement of contrition. 66, 76.

In gorgeous robes befitting the occasion
[N, pp. 134-35; D, pp. 132-33; CP 45, ‘For the Last Time’; CSP 66, ‘The Council’; CP 76]
1 (occasion N-45: occasion, 66, 76.)
4 *The earth of marriage on a sure foundation: N-45:
   Our earth of marriage on a sure foundation. 66, 76.
5 The little town was full of spies; corrupt mankind N-76. (spies: 66, 76.)
6 *Waited on tenterhooks of expectation. N, D:
   Chatted or wagered on its expectation. 45:
   Waited on tenterhooks. //With ostentation 66, 76.
7 *The doors swung back at last: success had been complete. N-45:
   Doors were at last flung back; success had been complete: 66, 76.
8-9 *The formulae essential to salvation/Were found for ever, N-45:
   The formulae essential to salvation/Were phrased for ever 66, 76.
9-10 and the true relation/Of Agape to Eros finally defined: N-76.
   (defined. 66, 76.)
11 The burghers hung out flags in celebration, N-76. (celebration; 66, 76.)
13 *As they dispersed, four heralds galloped up with news: N-45:
   Into their joy four heralds galloped up with news. 66, 76.
13/14 (stanza break) N-45: (no stanza break) 66: (stanza break) 76.
14 *The tribes are moving on the Western Marches. N-45:
   ‘Fierce tribes are moving on the Western Marches. 66, 76.
16 *The Southern harbours are infested with the Jews. N-45:
   The Southern shipping-lanes are in the hands of Jews. 66, 76.
17-18 The Northern provinces are much deluded
   By one who claims there are not seven stars, but ten.’ N-76.
   (17 *Provinces 66, 76.) (18 stars but 66, 76.)
21 *——Postremum Sanctus Spiritus effudit? N:
   ———Postremum Sanctus Spiritus effudit? D-76. (effdút? D:)

To the man-in-the-street, who, I’m sorry to say,
‘Hard cases make bad law,’ as the politician learns to his cost:
\[N, \text{ p. 140; D, p. 138; CSP 66, the 16th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76}\]
2 Yet just is the artist’s reproach; Who generalizes is lost.’ \(N-76\).
\(\text{(reproach— D:)}\) \(\text{(generalises 66, 76.)}\)

What will cure the nation’s ill?
\[N, \text{ p. 141; D, p. 139; CSP 66, the 13th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76}\]
1 (‘What \(N, \text{ D:}\) \(\text{Who 66, 76.)}\)
3 *But how can you find this leader of yours? \(N, \text{ D:}\)
\(\text{But how will you find this leader of yours? 66, 76.}\)
4 *By a process of Natural Selection, of course. \(N, \text{ D:}\) \(\text{(Selection D:)}\)
\(\text{By process of Natural Selection, of course. 66, 76.}\)

What was that? Why are the public buildings so high? O, \(N, \text{ D:}\)
\[N, \text{ p. 145; D, p. 144; CSP 66, the 15th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76}\]
1 *Why are the public buildings so high? \(\text{How come you don’t know? 66, 76.}\)
2 *That’s because the spirits of the public are so low. \(N:\)
\(\text{That is because the spirits of the public are so low. D:}\)
\(\text{Why, that’s because the spirits of the public are so low. 66, 76.}\)

Anthropos apteros for days
1–8 (two stanzas, in roman) \(\text{N, D: (in italics) 45: (in roman) 66, 76.}\)
2 *Walked whistling round and round the maze, \(N-76\). \(\text{(Maze, D: Maze, 45:)}\)
7 He halted where four alleys crossed \(N-76\). \(\text{(crossed, D: crossed, 45:)}\)
8 *And recognized \(N:\) \(\text{And recognised D–76.}\)
11 It has an answer; so I can \(N-76\). \(\text{(answer, D–76.\)}\)
13 ‘If \(N:\) If \(D, 45:\) ‘If \(66, 76.\)
14 A Plan implies an Architect; \(N-76\). \(\text{(Architect: D–76.)}\)
17 *Are data from the world of sense, \(N-76.\)
\(\text{(Are D, 45:) (Sense D: Sense, 45:)}\)
18 In that case, valid evidence; \(N-76\). \(\text{(evidence? D–76.)}\)
19 What in the universe I know \(N-76\). \(\text{(What, 66, 76.) (know, 66, 76.)}\)
21 ‘All \(N:\) All \(D, 45:\) ‘All 66, 76.\)
25 *Aesthetics, though, believes all art N-76. (Aesthetics, D, 45:) (Art D-76.)
26 *Intends to gratify the heart; N-76. (the Heart: D, 45: the heart: 66, 76.)
28 Must I then go which way I please? N-76. (Must I, then, D-76.)
29 'Such N: Such D, 45: 'Such 66, 76.
31 Which we have no right to assert N-76. (assert, D, 45:)
32 *According to the introvert.... N: /According to the Introvert. D, 45:
/According to the introvert. 66, 76.
33-34 'His absolute presupposition/Is; Man creates his own condition: N:
   His absolute pre-supposition/Is—Man creates his own condition: D, 45:
   'His absolute presupposition/Is: Man creates his own condition. 66, 76.
35 This maze was not divinely built, N-76. (built 66, 76.)
37 'The centre N: The centre D, 45: 'The centre 66, 76.
38 *Is known to my unconscious mind; N; 66, 76.
   Is known to my Unconscious Mind; D, 45:
39 I have no reason to despair, N-76. (despair D-76.)
41 'My problem is how not to will; N; 66, 76.
   My problem is how not to will; D, 45:
42 They move most quickly who stand still: N-76. (still; D, 45:)
45 'If N: If D, 45: 'If 66, 76.
47 *Content myself with the conclusion; N-45:
   Content myself with this conclusion: 66, 76.
49-50 *"All statement about what I feel
   Like I-am-lost are quite unreal: N: [statement is a misprint.]
   All statements about what I feel,
   Like I-am-lost, are quite unreal: D-76. (49 'All 66, 76.)
53-56 (the last stanza, in roman) N, D: (in italics) 45: (in roman) 66, 76.
55 *Looked up and wished he were the bird N-45:
    Looked up and wished he were a bird 66, 76.
56 *To whom his doubts must seem absurd. N:
    To whom such doubts must seem absurd. D-76.

Round the three actors in any blessed event
[Harpers Bazaar, December 1939, 'Nativity*; N, pp. 159-60; D, pp. 159-60; CP 45,
'Blessed Event'; CSP 66; CP 76]
1 (*blessed event N; 66, 76. Blessed Event D, 45:)
2 Is always standing an invisible audience of four, N-76. (four; D, 45:)
3 *The double twins, the fallen natures of man. N-76. (Man. D, 45:)
6 *Above sit the Best Decisive People, N-45:
    Above sit the best decisive people, 66, 76.
7 Below they must kneel all day so as not to be governed. N-76. (day, D, 45:)
8 *Four voices just audible in the hush of any Christmas:  N; 66, 76.

Four voices just audible in the hush of any Christmas,
Expressing their kinds of hopeful attention:  D, 45:

9-12 'Accept my friendship or die.'
'I shall keep order and not very much will happen.'
'Bring me luck and of course I'll support you.'
'I smell blood and an era of prominent madmen.'  N:

—'Accept my friendship or die'—
—'I shall keep order and not very much will happen'—
—'Bring me luck and of course I'll support you'—
—I smell blood and an era of prominent madmen,'  D, 45:

Accept my friendship or die.
I shall keep order and not very much will happen.
Bring me luck and of course I'll support you.
I smell blood and an era of prominent madmen.  66, 76.

13-14 *But the Three hear nothing and are blind to even the landscape
With its towns and rivers and pretty pieces of nonsense:  N; 66, 76.

(13 *even to the landscape 66, 76.) (14 nonsense. 66, 76.)

But the Three hear nothing, and are blind to even the landscape
With its rivers and towns and pretty pieces of nonsense:  D, 45:

15 *For He, all father, repenting their animal nights,  N–45:

He, all father, repenting their animal nights,  66, 76.

16 *Cries, 'Why did she have to be tortured? It was all my fault.'  N:

Cries—"Why did she have to be tortured? It was all my fault";  D, 45:

Cries: Why did She have to be tortured? It is all my fault.  66, 76.

17 *Once more a virgin, She whispers, 'The future shall never suffer.'  N:

Once more a virgin, she whispers—"The future shall never suffer";  D, 45:

Once more a virgin, She whispers: The Future shall never suffer.  66, 76.

20 *Which will always appear to end in some dreadful defeat.  N; 66, 76.

That must always appear to end in some dreadful defeat.  D, 45:

THE QUEST

(In the square brackets, NR stands for the New Republic (25 November 1940) version; in the list of variants, 40, N and D are for the New Republic, New Year Letter and The Double Man versions respectively.)

Out of it steps the future of the poor,
[NR, '1. The Door'; NYL, '1'; DM, 'The Door': CP 45; CSP 66, '1'; SP 68; CP 76]

1-2 *Out of it steps the future of the poor,

Enigmas, executioners, and rules,  40–45: (2 executioners 40; D, 45:)
Out of it steps our future, through this door
Enigmas, executioners and rules,

That waited for her in the sunshine, and,

All had been ordered weeks before the start

2 From the best firms at such work; instruments

7-8 *Foreboding, too, insisted on a gun, / And coloured beads

9 In theory they were sound on Expectation

10 Had there been situations to be in;

13 *A conjurer fine apparatus, nor

The friends who met here and embraced are gone,

1 (*The friends

6 *The empty junction glitters in the sun.

7-8 *who can tell, / O places of decision and farewell,

9 *To what dishonour all adventure leads,

11 *So orientated his salvation needs

19 What joy take longer to atone for? Yet

No window in his suburb lights that bedroom where

12 *That everywhere on the horizon of his sigh

In villages from which their childhoods came

3 Necessity by nature is the same

10 Found some temptation fit to govern him;

13 During the lunch-hour round the fountain rim;
14 And watched the country kids arrive and laughed. 40-76. (arrive, 45:)

Ashamed to be the darling of his grief
1 (grief 40-45: grief, 66-76.)
5 Who turned his hungers into Roman food, 40-76. (food. D:)
6 *The town’s asymmetry into a park; 40-76. (asymmetry 40; D-76.)
9 But if he wished for anything less grand 40-76.
   (But, 66-76. grand, 40; D-76.)
12 And when Truth met him and put out her hand 40-76.
   (hand, 40: hand: D: hand, 45-76.)
14 *And shrank away like an ill-treated child. 40-76. (ill treated 40:)

The library annoyed him with its look
1 (*The library 40-45: His library 66-76.)
3 He threw away a rival’s silly book, 40-45:
   He threw away a rival’s boring book, 66-76.
7 Now let Thy perfect be identified 40-76. (identified, 40; D, 45:)
9 And his long-suffering flesh, that all the time 40-76.
   (long suffering 40; D, 45:)

He watched with all his organs of concern
2 How princes walk, what wives and children say; 40-76. (say, 66-76.)
3 Re-opened old graves in his heart to learn 40-76. (Reopened 40; D, 45:)
4 What laws the dead had died to disobey. 40-76. (disobey, 66-76.)
6 ‘All the arm-chair philosophers are false; 40-45:
   ‘All the arm-chair philosophies are false; 66-76.
8 *The song of pity is the Devil’s Waltz.” 40-45:
   The song of mercy is the Devil’s Waltz.’ 66-76.
9-10 *And bowed to fate and was successful so
   That soon he was the king of all the creature: 40-45:
   All that he put his hand to prospered so
   That soon he was the very King of creatures, 66-76.
11 *Yet, shaking in an autumn nightmare, saw, 40-45:
   Yet, in an autumn nightmare trembled, for, 66-76.
13-14 *A figure with his own distorted features/That wept, 40-45:
   Strode someone with his own distorted features/Who wept, 66-76.

This is an architecture for the odd;
[NR, '9. The Tower'; NYL, 'IX'; DM, 'The Tower'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'IX'; SP 68; CP 76]
8 *In epic verse that lets its traitors weep. 40-45:
   In epic verse that makes its traitors weep. 66-76.
10 For those who dread to drown of thirst may die, 40-76. (drown, 66-76.)
12 Here great magicians caught in their own spell 40-D:
   Here great magicians, caught in their own spell, 45-76.

They noticed that virginity was needed
[NR, '10. The Presumptuous'; NYL, 'X'; DM, 'The Presumptuous'; CP 45; SP 58, 'The Quest, III'; CSP 66, 'X'; SP 68; CP 76]
10 On what, for them, was not compulsory: 40-76.
   (compulsory 58: compulsory, 66, 76.)
11 And stuck half-way to settle in some cave 40-76. (halfway 40; D, 45:)
12 With desert lions to domesticity; 40-76. (domesticity, 66-76.)

His peasant parents killed themselves with toil
[NR, '11. The Average'; NYL, 'XI'; DM, 'The Average'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'XI'; SP 68; CP 76]
3 *For any of those smart professions which 40-45:
   For any of those fine professions which 66-76.
8 *Only a hero could deserve such love. 40; D, 45; 66-76.
   Only a hero would deserve such love. N:
9 So here he was without maps or supplies 40-76. (supplies, 40; D-76.)
12 The silence roared displeasure: looking down, 40; D, 45:
   The silence roared displeasure:/looking down N; 66-76. (down, 66-76.)
14 *Attempting the Exceptional, and ran. 40-76. (the exceptional, 66-76.)

Incredulous, he stared at the amused
[NR, '12. Vocation'; NYL, 'XII'; DM, 'Vocation'; CP 45; SP 58, 'The Quest, IV'; CSP 66, 'XII'; SP 68; CP 76]
10 Though mirrors might be hateful for a while 40-76. (while, 40; D, 45; 66-76.)
11 *Women and books should teach his middle age 40-58:
   Women and books would teach his middle age 66-76.
12 The fencing wit of an informal style 40-76. (style, 66-76.)
The over-logical fell for the witch

[ NR, '13. The Useful'; NYL, 'XIII'; DM, 'The Useful'; CP 45; SP 58, 'The Quest, V'; CSP 66, 'XIII', CP 76]

2 Whose argument converted him to stone, 40-76. (stone; 40; D-58:)

3 Thieves rapidly absorbed the over-rich, 40-76. (over-rich; 40, D-58:)

5 *And kisses brutalized the over-male. 40-76. (brutalised 45:)

6 *As agents their effectiveness soon ceased; 40-58:
   As agents their importance quickly ceased; 66-76.

9 *To those still able to obey their wish. 40-58:
   For one predestined to attain their wish. 66-76.

Fresh addenda are published every day


2 *To the encyclopedia of the Way. 40-76. (encyclopaedia 45:) (Way, 66-76.)

4 *And texts for schools, with modernized spelling and illustrations. 40-76.
   (schools 40; D, 45; 66-76.) (modernised 45:)

10 For a vision of the Triple Rainbow or the Astral Clock. 40-76. (Clock, 66-76.)

Suppose he'd listened to the erudite committee;

[ NR, '15. The Lucky'; NYL, 'XV'; DM, 'The Lucky'; CP 45; SP 58, 'The Quest, VI', CSP 66, 'XV'; SP 68; CP 76]

1 *(He carried D:)

7 *"It was not I," he cried as, healthy and astounded, 40; D, 45; 68, 76.
   'I was not I,' he cried as, healthy and astounded, N; 58, 66:

He parried every question that they hurled:

[ NR, '16. The Hero'; NYL, 'XVI'; DM, 'The Hero'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'XVI'; SP 68; CP 76]

1 *(He carried D:)

5 Some muttered; 'He is cagey for effect. 40-76. (muttered, 40; D, 45:)

11 Was his delight in details and routine: 40-76. (routine. 40; D, 45:)

14 *Or look at clouds through bits of coloured glass. 40-76. (colored 40; D, 45:)

Others had swerved off to the left before,

[ NR, '17. Adventure'; NYL, 'XVII'; DM, 'Adventure'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'XVII'; SP 68; CP 76]

1-2 *Others had swerved off to the left before,
   But only under protest from outside; 40-45: (2 outside, 45:)
   Others had found it prudent to withdraw
Before official pressure was applied, 66-76.

5 *Now no one else accused these of a crime; 40; D, 45:
But no-one else accused these of a crime; N; 66-76. (no one else 66-76.)

Spinning upon their central thirst like tops
[NR, '18. The Adventurers'; NYL, 'XVIII'; DM, 'The Adventurers'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'XVIII'; SP 68; CP 76]
1 (like tops, 40; D-76.)
2 *They went the Negative Way towards the Dry; 40-76. (toward 40; D, 45:)
4 They emptied out their memories like slops 40-76. (like slops, 66-76.)
11 Became some painter's happiest inspiration; 40-76. (inspiration, 66-76.)

Poet, oracle, and wit
1 (oracle and 40; D, 45:)
5 The vectors of their interest; 40-76. (interest, 66-76.)

Within these gates all opening begins:
[NR, '20. The Garden'; NYL, 'XX'; DM, 'The Garden'; CP 45; CSP 66, 'XX'; SP 68; CP 76]
2 White shouts and flickers through its green and red 40-76. (red, 40; D-76.)
9 All journeys die here; wish and weight are lifted: 40-76. (here: 66-76.)
13 Blushed in the stare of evening as they spoke 40-76. (spoke, 40; D, 45:)
14 *And felt their centre of volition shifted. 40-76. (center 40; D, 45:)

EPILOGUE

Returning each morning from a timeless world
[Nation, 7 December 1940, 'Autumn 1940'; NYL, 'Epilogue'; DM; CP 45, 'Autumn 1940'; CSP 66, 'The Dark Years'; CP 76]
(40 designates the Nation version below. Initial capitalization of each line is discarded in 66 and 76 except where the sentence begins.)
1 (world 40-D: world, 45-76.)
2 The senses open upon a world of time: 40-76. (time; 40; D, 45:)
4 Novel still and immensely ambitious, 40-76. (ambitious, 66, 76.)
5 But translated from her own informal world 40-76.
(But, 45-76.) (world, 45-76.)
7 A shining novelty this morning 40-76. (morning, 40; D-76.)
8 And does not like the noise or the people; 40-76. (people, 40; D-76.)
12 Misshapen coastguards drunk with foreboding, 40–76. (foreboding; 45:)

13 *And whispering websters stealing through this world 40–45:
and whispering websters, creeping through this world, 66, 76.

14 Discredit so much literature and praise: 40–76. (praise. 66, 76.)

15 Summer was worse than we expected; 40–76.
(Summer 66, 76.) (expected, 40; D, 45: expected: 66, 76.)

16 *And now cold autumn comes on the water. 40; D, 45:
The cold of Autumn comes on the water, N:
now an Autumn cold comes on the water, 66, 76.

17 *The lesser lives retire on their savings, their 40; D, 45:
As lesser lives retire on their savings, their N; 66, 76.

18 *Small deposits of starches and nuts, and soon 40; D–76.
Small deposits of starches or nuts, and soon N:

19–20 *Will be asleep or travelling or/Dead; 40–45: (traveling 40; D:)
will be asleep or travelling/or dead. 66, 76.

23 *Their pinches of detritus to the 40–76. (or detritus 40:)

25 *And even the uneliminated decline 40; D, 45:
And even our uneliminated decline N; 66, 76.

26 To a vita minima, huddling for warmth, 40–76. (warmth 40; D, 45:)

29 In a darkness of tribulation and death 40–76. (death, 40; D–76,)

30 *While blizzards havoc the gardens 40–76. (gardens, 40; D, 45: garden 66, 76.)

30–31 and the old/Folly becomes unsafe, 40–76. (Folly 66, 76.)

31–32 the mill-wheels/Rust and 40–45: the mill-wheels/rust, and 66, 76.

36 *And the moons of his magical summer? 40; D, 45:
And the moons of a magical summer? N; 66, 76.

37 *But the local train does not run any more, 40; D, 45:
The local train does not run any more, N; 66, 76.

41 *Whom father’s battered hat cannot wish away; 40–45: (away, 40; D, 45:)
whom Father’s battered hat cannot wave away, 66, 76.

43 *Back to that labyrinth where either 40; D, 45:
Back to the labyrinth where either N; 66, 76.

45 *Oh what sign can we make to be found? How can 40; D, 45:
O what signs can we make to be found, how can N:
What signs ought we to make to be found, how can 66, 76.

48–49 *But few have seen Jesus and so many//Judas the Abyss. 40; D, 45:
But who have seen Jesus and who only//Judas the Abyss? N; 66, 76.
(48 *but who has seen Jesus 66, 76.)

50 *And death so substantial in the thinning air; 40–45:
death all too substantial in the thinning air, 66, 76.
52 *Events are traded with time, but who can 40; D, 45:
   Events are traded with time but cannot N; 66, 76.
53 *Tell what logic must and must not leave to fate 40-76. (fate, 40; D-76.)
54 Or what laws we are permitted to obey: 40-76. (obey? 40; D, 45:)
55 *There are no birds, the predatory 40-45: (birds; 40; D, 45:)
      there are no birds now, predatory 66, 76.
56 *Glaciers glitter in the chilly evening; 40; D, 45:  
      Glaciers glitter in a chilly evening, N; 66, 76.
59 *Let the lips do formal contrition 40-45:  
      let the lips make formal contrition 66, 76.
60 For whatever is going to happen, 40-76. (happen; 40; D, 45:)
64 In a brief moment of intersection, 40-76.  
      (intersection; 40; D, 45: intersection, 66, 76.)
65 *That the orgulous spirit may while it can 40-45:  
      that the spirit orgulous may while it can 66, 76.
68 One immortal one infinite Substance, 40; D, 45:  
      One immortal, one infinite Substance; N; 66, 76.
71-72 and the shining/Light be comprehended by the darkness. 40-76.  
      (72 Light 66, 76.)
Abruptly mounting her ramshackle wheel,

[Title (Bryn Mawr College), May 1944, 'In War Time*; CP 45, 'In War Time (For Caroline Newton); CSP 50]

13-14 *to fulfill/The doom 45: to fulfil/The doom 50.

Around them boomed the rhetoric of time,

[Southern Review, Spring 1941, 'Kairos and Logos*; CP 45; CSP 50; CP 76]

I

5 *And, at the centre of its vast self-love, 45, 50:
   While, at the centre of its vast self-love, 76.
6 *The emperor and his pleasures, dreading death. 45, 50:
   Sat Caesar with his pleasures, dreading death. 76.
7 *In lovely verse that military order, 45, 50:
   In clanging verse that military order, 76.
8 onto time, 45: onto time 50: onto time, 76.
14 *Destroyer of cities and the daylight order, 45, 50:
   Destroyer of cities and of daylight order, 76.
15 *But seemed to them weak arguments for death; 45, 50:
   But seemed to them weak argument for death. 76.
17 yet not be condemned; 45, 50: yet not be condemned, 76.
19 *Friendly to what the sensual call death, 45, 50:
   Friendly to what the multitudes call death 76.
24 *The savage waited their appointed time. 45, 50:
   Barbarians waited their appointed time. 76.
25 *Its brilliant self-assertions were condemned 45, 50:
   Its flagrant self-assertions were condemned 76.
32 *The fair, the faithful and the uncondemned 45, 50:
   The just, the faithful and the uncondemned 76.

II

15 ——‘Be a forest,’ 45: ——‘Be a forest’. 50: ——‘Be a forest,’ 76.

IV

9 *O columns, acrobats of cheering spaces, 45, 50:
   Tall columns, acrobats of cheering spaces, 76.
10 *O songs that were the royal wives of silence, 45, 50:
   Loud hymns that were the royal wives of silence, 76.
31-32 *O blessing of reproach. O proof that silence
   And condemnation presuppose our lives: 45, 50:
Reproach, though, is a blessing, proof that silence
And condemnation presuppose our lives: 76.

Being set on the idea

[CP 45, ‘Atlantis’; CSP 50; SP 58; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76]

7-8 and that you/Must therefore be ready to 45-76. (therefore, 58:)

21-22 *How its subtlety betrays/Their enormous simple grief: 45-58:

   How their subtlety betrays/A simple enormous grief; 66-76.

26 Among the headlands of Thrace, 45-76. (of Thrace 66-76.)

47-48 *how/Will you recognise the true? 45-76. (recognize 50-76.)

57 *O remember the great dead 45-58:/Remember the noble dead 66-76.

65-66 *With all Atlantis shining/Below you 45-58:

   With all Atlantis gleaming/Below you 66-76.

67-70 *Descend, you should still be proud

   Even to have been allowed

   Just to peep at Atlantis

   In a poetic vision: 45:

   (1. 69, dropped) 50-68: (restored) 76.

76 *Farewell, my dear, farewell: may 45, 50:

   Farewell, dear friend, farewell: may 58-76.

77 Hermes, master of the roads, 45-76. (roads 50-76.)

83 *Lifting up, dear, upon you 45, 50:

   Lifting up, friend, upon you 58-76.

Dear, all benevolence of fingering lips

[CP 45, ‘In Sickness and in Health (For Maurice and Gwen Mandelbaum)’; Mint (1946); CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76]

14 *O promise nothing, nothing, till you know 45-50:

   No, promise nothing, nothing, till you know 66, 76.

24 *How much lies smashed that cannot be replaced. 45-50:

   What goods are smashed that cannot be replaced. 66, 76.

25 *O let none say I Love until aware 45-50:

   Let no one say I Love until aware 66, 76.

36 Make passion out of passion’s obstacles; 45-76. (obstacles, 66, 76.)

43 Each moment recommending it, 45-76. (it 66, 76.)

44 And knows no argument to counter theirs; 45-76. (theirs: 66, 76.)

53 New Machiavellis flying through the air 45-50:

   New Machiavellis, flying through the air, 66, 76.

77 *O, lest we manufacture in our flesh 45-50:

   So, lest we manufacture in our flesh 66, 76.
81-88 *45–50: (one stanza, cut) 66, 76.

111 And take our love for granted, Love, permit 45, 46:
   And take our love for granted, Love permit 50–76,

119-120 *Preserve us from presumption and delay;
   O hold us to the voluntary way. 45–50:
   Preserve us from presumption and delay,
   And hold us to the ordinary way. 66, 76.

Each lover has some theory of his own

[Harper's Bazaar, 15 March 1941*; CP 45, ‘Are You There?;’ CSP 50, ‘Alone;’ CSP 66; CP 76]

1 (*some theory 45, 50: a theory 66, 76.)

17-18 *has a wish to make/Some kind of otherness his own: 45:
   has a wish to make/Some other kind of otherness his own: 50–76.

For what as easy,

[New Signatures(1932), ‘Poem’; CP 45, ‘To You Simply’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘Five Songs, III; CP 76]

1 (easy 32: easy, 45: easy 50–76.)

2 For what though small, 32–76. (small 32:)

4 Because between, 32–76. (between 32:)

6 From me I mean 32–76. (mean. 66, 76.)

7-8 Who goes with who/The bedclothes say 32–76.
   (7 with Who 32:) (8 say, 66, 76.)

9-10 *And I and You/Go kissed away 32:
   As I and you/Go kissed away, 45–76.

11-12 The data given,/The senses even 32–76.
   (11 given 32:) (12 even. 66, 76.)

13 Fate is not late, 32–76. (late 32:)

13/14 *Nor the ghost houseless 32: (one line, cut) 45–76.

14 Nor the speech rewritten, 32–76. (rewritten 32:)

14/15 *Nor the tongue listless 32: (one line, cut) 45–76.

15 *Nor the word forgotten 32: /Nor one word forgotten, 45–76.

16-18 Said at the start/About heart/By heart, for heart 32:
   Said at the start/About heart, /By heart, for heart. 45–76.

Generally, reading palms or handwriting or faces

[Dodo(Swarthmore College), February 1943, ‘To the Model’*; Harper's Bazaar, April 1945*; CP 45, ‘The Model’; CSP 50; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]
4-5 *the frowning schoolgirl may/Be dying to be asked to stay; 45-76.
   (may/By dying 58:)
18 *She survived her true condition; she forgave; she became. 45, 50:
   She survived whatever happened; she forgave; she became. 58-76.

Johnny, since today is
[CP 45, 'Many Happy Returns(For John Rettger)'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76]
1 (today 45: to-day 50-76.)
13 Naivety's an act that 45:/Naive's an act that 50-76.
63-64 Ancient proverb;—Nothing/Fails like a success. 45-76. (proverb: 76.)

Kicking his mother until she let go of his soul
[Commonweal, 30 October 1942, 'Mundus et Infans*'; CP 45, 'Mundus et Infans(For
   Arthur and Angelyn Stevens)'; CSP 50; SP 58; CSP 66, 'Mundus et Infans(For Albert
   and Angelyn Stevens)'; CP 76]
2 clearly, her rôle 45-76. (role 58:)
9 heel drawn up to thigh, 45-76. (to thigh 50; 66, 76.)
33 *because his judgments are so 45-76. (judgements 58:)
36-37 Never dare offer our helplessness as a good/Bargain; 45-76.
   (Bargain, 50-76.)
38-39 a misfortune we blame/History or Banks or the Weather for: 45-76.
   (for; 58:)
44-45 a fashionable or/Important personage: 45-76. (personage; 58:)
47 Whoever we are now, we were no worse at his age; 45-76. (age: 58:)
52-53 To go upstairs or for a walk if we must cry over/Spilt milk, 45-76.
   (for a walk, 66, 76.)
54 That, since, apparently, we shall never be above 45-58:
   That, since apparently we shall never be above 66, 76.

The first time that I dreamed, we were in flight,
[CP 45, 'The Lesson'; CSP 50; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]
18 But on their impact sudden flame and wind 45-58:
   But, on their impact, sudden flame and wind 66, 76.
24 *I sat, my little master, asking why 45; 58:
   I sat, a little master, asking why 50; 66, 76.
30-31 *Only our seats had velvet cushions, so/We must have won; 45-58:
   Our cushions were of crimson velvet, so/We must have won; 66, 76.
33 *O fair or funny was each famous guest. 45-58:
   Fair, wise or funny was each famous guest, 66, 76.
The journals give the quantities of wrong,

[Decision, February 1941*; Horizon, April 1941, 'Poem'; CP 45, 'Christmas 1940'; CSP 50]

3 How many and what sort it caused to die, 41-50. (to die; 41:)

4 But, O, what finite integers express 41-50. (But O what 41:)

17 "Beware! Beware! The Great Boyg has you down", 41-50.

('Beware, beware, The 41:)

18 *Some deeper conscience in revulsion cries, 41:

Some deeper instinct in revulsion cries, 45, 50.

22 *Because Negation has no form nor feature 41:

Because Negation has nor form nor feature, 45, 50.

23-24 And all Its lust to power is impotent

Unless the actual It hates consent. 41-50.

(23 all its 41:) (24 the Actual it 41:)

25-27 *The universe of pure extension where

Nothing except the universe was lonely,

For Promise was occluded in its womb 41-50.

(25 Universe 41:) (26 Universe 41:) (27 Its 41:)

34-35 Slept in the sadness of its disconnected

Aggressive creatures—as a latent wish 41-50.

(34 of Its 41:) (35 creatures, as 41:)

39 But Flesh grew weaker, stronger grew the Word, 41-50. (But flesh 41:)

41 *Now to maturity must crawl the child 41:

Now to maturity must crawl that child 45, 50.

42 In whom the old equations are reversed 41-50. (reversed, 41:)

43 For that is Cause which was Effect before; 41:

For that is cause which was effect before, 45, 50.

44 Now he must learn for what he has been nursed 41-50. (nursed, 41:)

45-46 *the real world/Of self-regarding instants may endure 41:

the real world/Of self-enduring instants may endure 45, 50.

48 *Into invisibility at last.” 41, 45: (at last. 41:)

Into visibility at last,' 50.

59 A faiblesse any longer for the dull 41-50. (A faiblesse 41:)

66-67 Some vision of that holy centre where

All time's occasions are refreshed; the lost 41-50.

(66 *that holy Centre 41:) (67 All Time's 41:)

68 Are met by all the other places there, 41-50. (there; 41:)

69 *The rival errors recognize their loves, 41:

The rival errors recognise their love, 45, 50. (recognize 50.)
70 *Fall weeping on each other’s necks at last; 41:
   Fall weeping on each other’s neck at last; 45, 50.
74-75 *Only its Roman Vigour can bestow
   On earth and sea la douceur Angevine, 41:
   Only its Roman rigour can bestow
   On earth and sea “la douceur angevine,” 45, 50.
77 Only its trembling can externalise 41-50. (externalize 41; 50.)

The sense of danger must not disappear:
[Decision, April 1941, ‘Poem’; CP 45, ‘Leap Before You Look’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76]
(No revision.)

The snow, less intransigeant than their marble,
[Horizon, June 1941, ‘At the Grave of Henry James’; Partisan Review, July-August 1941; CP 45; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76]
(H and P stand for the Horizon and Partisan Review versions respectively.)
1 (*intransigeant H; 45-76. intransigent P:)
2 to these tombs; H, P; 45, 50: to these tombs, 66, 76.
3 *For all the pools at my feet H, P; 45, 50:/And all the pools at my feet 66, 76.
4 *Accommodate blue, now, and echo such clouds as occur H:
   Accommodate blue now, and echo such clouds as occur P; 45, 50:
   Accommodate blue now, echo such clouds as occur 66, 76.
6 they repeat. H, P; 66, 76. they repeat 45, 50:
7 *While the rocks, named after singular spaces H, P; 45, 50:
   While rocks, named after singular spaces 66, 76.
11 lost its uniqueness H; 45-76. lost its uniqueness, P:
13 such transactions H; 45, 50: such transactions, P; 66, 76.
14 *When worlds of reflection were exchanged for trees? H, P; 66, 76.
   When words of reflection were exchanged for trees? 45, 50:
16 *O noon but reflects on itself, H, P; 45, 50:
   Noon but reflects on itself, 66, 76.
17 *time that is A warm enigma no longer in you H, P; 45, 50:
   time that is A warm enigma no longer to you 66, 76.
22-23 *for whom I/Surrender my private cheer H, P; 45-76.
   (24 cheer. H, P: cheer 45, 50: cheer, 66, 76.)
25-30 *H, P; 45, 50: (one stanza, cut) 66, 76.
25 of my apprehension, H; 45, 50. of my apprehension, P: (a misprint.)

27 The donnée H: The donnée P; 45, 50.

32-33 the earth, which gendarmes, banks, /And aspirin pre-suppose. H, P: 45-76.
   (banks 66, 76.) (presuppose, H, P: pre-suppose, 66, 76.)

35-36 the common locus /Of the master and the rose. H, P; 45-76.
   (the Master 66, 76.)

37-90 H, P; 45, 50: (nine stanzas, cut) 66, 76.

40 *is de rigeur for their flesh, H, P: is de rigueur for their flesh 45, 50.

46 *Open my eyes now to its hinted significant figures, H, P:
   Open my eyes now to all its hinted significant forms, 45, 50.

47 amid its brilliant uproar H; 45, 50. amid its brilliant uproar, P:

49 O dwell ironic at my living centre, H, P:
   O dwell, ironic at my living centre, 45, 50.

52 might possibly do, H, P: might possibly do 45, 50.

59-60 *and resolved in /One whole alas or hurrah. H, P:
   and resolved in /One whole Alas or Hurrah. 45, 50.

61 *And only the unborn mark the disaster H:
   And only the unborn remark the disaster P; 45, 50.

66 *The flexible shadow springs. H, P; 45, 50. (Shadow H, P:)

66/67 *Perhaps the honour of a great house, perhaps its
   Cradles and tombs may persuade the bravado of
   The bachelor mind to doubt
   The dishonest path, or save from disgraceful collapse
   The creature's shrinking withness bellowed at and tickled
   By the huge Immodest Without,
   H, P:
   (1 *What but the honour of a great house, what but its P:)
   (4 *Its dishonest path, P:)(6 By the huge immodest Without? P:)
   (One stanza, cut) 45, 50.

67 Now more than ever when H, P: Now more than ever, when 45, 50.

69-70 *Till a milling mob of fears /Break in insultingly H, P:
   Till a milling mob of fears /Breaks in insultingly 45, 50.

83 *An army's primitive tidings may deceive me H:
   An army's primitive tidiness may deceive me P; 45, 50.

86 can annul: H: can annul; P, 45, 50.

89 *To be essentially corrupt yet mournfully attracted H, P:
   To be radically corrupt yet mournfully attracted 45, 50.

90/91 *Let this orchard point to its stable arrangement
   Of accomplished bones as a proof that our lives
   Conceal a pattern which shows
   A tendency to execute formative movements, to have
   Definite experiences in their execution,
To rejoice in knowing it grows.  

(One stanza, cut) 45, 50.

91 *And shall I not specially bless you as, vexed with H, P; 45, 50:

Shall I not especially bless you as, vexed with 66, 76.

92-93 *today I stand/Beside the bed where you rest H, P; 45, 50:

(to-day H; 50:)

I stand/Above the bed where you rest, 66, 76.

94 *to your Bon when it ran H: to your Bon when It ran P; 45-76.

96 *in its breast? H, P: in Its breast? 45-76.

97 *O with what innocence your hand submitted H, P; 45, 50:

With what an innocence your hand submitted 66, 76.

98 *To those formal rules H, P; 66, 76. To these formal rules 45, 50:

that help a child to play, H; 45-76. that help a child to play P:

101 *Of your lucid gift, and for its own sake ignored the H, P:

Of your lucid gift and, for its own sake, ignored the 45, 50:

Of your lucid gift and, for its love, ignored the 66, 76.


103-4 *hatred of all which cannot/Be simplified H, P; 45, 50:

hatred of all that cannot/Be simplified 66, 76.

104 *is still at large; H, P; 45, 50: is yet at large: 66, 76.

109 from its vague incitement, H: from its vague incitement; P; 45-76.

111 from agreeable wrong, H: from agreeable wrong P; 45-76.

112 *of eddying muddle, H, P; 45, 50: of eddying Muddle. 66, 76.

115-132 H, P; 45, 50: (three stanzas, cut) 66, 76.

117 Lightly, lightly then may I dance H:

Lightly, lightly, then, may I dance P; 45, 50.

121 or water stakes but H, P: or water stakes, but 45, 50.

125 *Of which not one has a dissenting image, and the H, P; 50.

Of which not one had a dissenting image, and the 45:

126/127 *Knowing myself a mobile animal descended

From an ancient line of respectable fish,

With a certain méchant charm,

Occupying the earth for a grass-grown interval between

Two oscillations of polar ice, engaged in weaving

His conscience upon its calm.

Despising Now yet afraid of Hereafter,

Unable in spite of his stop-watch and lens

To imagine the rising Rome

To which his tools and tales migrate, to guess from what shore

The signal will flash, to observe the anarchist's gestation

In the smug constricted home.
(1 *a mobile creature, descended P:) (3 méchant charm, P:)
(4 *Occuping P: [a misprint])

(Two stanzas, cut) 45, 50.

130 of this spring, H, P: of this spring 45, 50.
134 Pray for me and for all writers living or dead; H, P; 45, 50:
Pray for me and for all writers, living or dead: 66, 76.
135-136 whose works/Are in better taste than their lives, H, P; 66, 76.
137 of our calling: H; 45, 50: of our calling; P: of our calling, 66, 76.
139-144 H, P; 45, 50: (the last stanza, cut) 66, 76.
142-143 or the cruel to cry, /For Him H: or the cruel to cry/For Him P; 45, 50.

They’re nice—one would never dream of going over
[CP 45, ‘A Healthy Spot’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76] 20 *College reunions, and which the smoke-room story 45, 50:
College reunions, and which the smoking-room story 66, 76.

Time will say nothing but I told you so,
17 *And all the brooks and soldiers run away; 45–76. (And all the books 50:)

Whenever you are thought, the mind
[CP 45, ‘Few and Simple’; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76] (No revision.)

When shall we learn, what should be clear as day,
[Partisan Review, September–October 1943, ‘Canzone’ (the second of ‘Two Poems’); CP 45, ‘Canzone’; The Mint (1946); CSP 50; CP 76] 4 to-day 43: today, 45, 46: to-day, 50: today, 76.
19 *Our claim to own our bodies and the world 43:
Our claim to own our bodies and our world 45–76.
22–23 *a world/Whose order, origins, and purpose will 43:
a world/Whose order, origin, and purpose will 45–76.
49 *Dear flesh, dear mind, dear spirit, O dear love, 43–50:
Dear flesh, dear mind, dear spirit, dearest love, 76.

Carry her over the water,
[Included in Paul Bunyan (1941); CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, III’; CSP
And the winds from every quarter 45–76. (quarter, 66, 76.)

Eyes look into the well,

[CP 45, ‘Songs and Musical Pieces, V’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘Twelve Songs, VI’; CP 76, ‘Ten Songs, VI’]

5–6 *Under the midnight stone/Love was buried by thieves; 45, 50:

Under a midnight stone/Love was buried by thieves; 66, 76.

“Gold in the North,” came the blizzard to say,

[Included in Paul Bunyan (1941)*; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, VII’; CSP 50]

11 *One morning I woke and found myself in hell, 45:

One morning I found myself in hell, 50.

23 America can break your heart. 45, 50. (heart, 50.)

In a garden shady this holy lady

[Included in the pamphlet Three Songs for St. Cecilia’s Day (1941)*; Harper’s Bazaar, December 1941*; CP 45, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, VIII: Song for St. Cecilia’s Day’; CSP 50; CSP 66, ‘Anthem for St. Cecilia’s Day (for Benjamin Britten)’; CP 76]

I

2 With reverent cadence and subtle psalm, 45–76. (psalm, 50:)

III

2 *O calm of spaces unafraid of weight, 45:

O calm spaces unafraid of weight, 50:

Calm spaces unafraid of wear or weight, 66, 76.

24 That what has been may never be again. 45–76. (again, 50:)

Jumbled in the common box


1 (*in the 41–50: in one 58–76.)

3 Orchid, swan, and Caesar lie; 41–76. (swan and 41:)

5 Has corroded all the locks 41–76. (locks, 41:)

7 *In its cleft the torrent mocks/Prophets 41–50; 66–76.

In its cleft a torrent mocks/Prophets 58:

15 *Index–finger at the sky, 41: /Index finger at a sky, 45–76.

16 *Crimson in the setting sun; 41; 66–76.
Crimson with the setting sun; 45–58:

19 Once we could have made the docks, 41–76. (the docks; 41:)

Lady, weeping at the crossroads

[Included in *The Dark Valley* (1940)*; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, X'; *The Mint* (1946), 'Four Poems, III'; CSP 50; SP 58, 'Lady, Weeping at the Crossroads'; CSP 66, 'Lady Weeping At The Crossroads'; CP 76]

1 (crossroads 45–58: crossroads, 66, 76.)
5 Bribe the birds then on the branches, 45–76. (on the branches. 58:)
16 You must drink it dry. 45–76. (dry, 66, 76.)
20 For the golden key. 45–76. (key, 66, 76.)
21 *Push onto the world’s end, 45:/Push on to the world’s end, 46–76.
21–22 pay the/Dread guard with a kiss; 45–76. (kiss, 66, 76.)
31 Blow the cobwebs from the mirror 45–76. (mirror, 76.)

My second thoughts condemn

[CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XVI'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, IX'; CP 76, 'Ten Songs, IX']

13 Temps fugit. Quite. 45, 50:/Temps fugit. Quite. 66, 76.
15 All flesh is grass. It is. 45, 50:/All flesh is grass. It is. 66, 76.

Dog The single creature leads a partial life,

[Included in *Paul Bunyan* (1941)*; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXII' *Harper's Bazaar*, April 1945; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, V'; CP 76, 'Ten Songs, V']

(No revision.)

Though determined Nature can

[CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXIV'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, VIII'; CP 76, 'Ten Songs, VIII']

20 In mortal danger 45–76. (danger. 76.)
INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The present article lists the variant readings between the poems originally included in *Nones* (1952) and *The Shield of Achilles* (1955) respectively and the versions preceding and succeeding them.

The first line given at the head of each list is from the text of the first editions. In the square brackets, periodicals or pamphlets that could not be examined are asterisked. The title of a version of a poem is not given if identical with that of the preceding version. The abbreviations used are as follows:

- N = *Nones* (Faber, 1952)
- SA = *The Shield of Achilles* (Faber, 1955)
- SP 59 = *Selected Poetry of W. H. Auden* (Modern Library, 1959)
- CSP 66 = *Collected Shorter Poems 1927–1957* (Faber, 1966)
- CSP 68 = *Selected Poems* (Faber, 1968; second impression, 1972)
- CSP 69 = *Collected Shorter Poems 1927–1957* (Faber, 1969: first paperback impression)
- CP 76 = *Collected Poems* (Faber/Random House, 1976)

Where the change is a minor one, like that in punctuation or spelling, a whole line is quoted from each volume, and the variants are listed in round brackets after or under the line. An asterisk is attached to a line involving any verbal change. Several minor alterations occur between the SP 58 and SP 59 versions though the two selections are quite identical in contents. When variations are found between them, they are listed. When not, only the 58 readings are given in the lists.

‘Prime’ and ‘Nones’, originally published as separate poems in *Nones*, are examined within the SA poems because they become in the latter volume part of the sequence titled ‘Horae Canonicae’. Auden writes in his Note to SA that ‘They were planned to be part of a sequence which is now complete, and it is in their proper context that I would prefer them to be read’.

I would like to express my thanks to Prof. Edward Mendelson, Literary Executor of the Estate of W.H. Auden, for his ready permission to quote freely from Auden’s work.

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*Faculty of Education, Iwate University*
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30 June 1978 Y. S. Y.

NONES

We, too, had known golden hours

[N, ‘To Reinhold and Ursula Niebuhr’ (dedicatory poem; in italics); CSP 66, ‘We Too Had Known Golden Hours’; CP 76]

4 By the light of a full moon 52-76. (moon, 66, 76.)

9 *Had left the intrusive glory 52:/Had felt the intrusive glory 66, 76. (Peace and Love, 66, 76.)

10 *Which tears reserve apart 52-76. (apart, 66, 76.)

17 *All words like peace and love, 52-76. (Peace and Love, 66, 76.)

20 To a horrid mechanical screech: 52-76, (screech. 66, 76.)

Simultaneously, as soundlessly, (See p. 53)

If it form the one landscape that we the inconstant ones

(*Horizon, July 1948, ‘In Praise of Limestone’*; N; SP 58; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76)

1 52-76. (that we, the inconstant ones, 66-76.)

4 and beneath 52, 58: and, beneath, 66-76.

5 *hear these springs 52, 58: hear the springs 66-76.

6 That spurt out everywhere with a chuckle 52-76. (chuckle, 66-76.)

12-13 *For her son, for the nude young male who lounges
Against a rock displaying his dildo, never doubting 52:

For her son, the flirtatious male who lounges
Against a rock in the sunlight, never doubting 58-76.

14 That for all his faults he is loved, whose works are but 52-76. (loved; 58-76.)

22-23 *sometimes/Arm in arm, 52, 58: at times/Arm in arm, 66-76.

42 For effects that bring down the house could happen to all 52-76. (house, 66-76.)

51 Slipped away sighing.) ‘Come!’ purred the clays and gravels. 52-76. (gravel, 76.)

55-56 *(Intendant Caesars rose and/Left, slamming the door.) 52-76.

(Intendant Caesars 58:)

58 ‘I am the solitude that asks and promises nothing; 52-76. (nothing, 68:)

60/61 (stanza break) 52, 58: (no stanza break) 66: (stanza break) 68, 76.

64-65 *A backward/And delapidated province, connected 52-76. (dilapidated 66-76.)

73 *By these solid statues 52, 58: By these marble statues 66-76.

85 To death as a fact, no doubt we are right: But if 52-76. (right: but 58:)
92 *Either, but when I try to imagine a faultless love 52-76. (try to image 68:)

Sometimes we see astonishingly clearly

[Third Hour, 1951*; N, ‘One Circumlocution’; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]

2 *The out-there-when we are already in: 52:

The out-there when we are already in: 58:

The out-there-now we are already in: 66, 76.

14 Of light-boned children under great green oaks: 52-76. (oaks: 66, 76.)

As I listened from a beach-chair in the shade

(N, ‘Their Lonely Betters’: SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76)

9 *No one of them was capable of lying, 52; 66:

Not one of them was capable of lying, 58; 76.

15 We, too, make noises when we laugh or weep, 52-76. (weep: 66, 76.)

On and on on on

CSP 66, ‘Twelve Songs, X’; CP 76, ‘Ten Songs, X’]

8 *Salute the threatening night. 47:/Salute the incumbent night. 52-76.

12 And exclaims its matter of fact; 47:/And exclaims its matter-of-fact; 52-76.

13 *The careful child with charm 47:/The child with careful charm 52-76.

17 All, all, have rights to declare, 47-76. (All, all have 47:)

19 To be simply publicly there 47:/To be, simply, publicly, there 52-76.

21-22 *So my embodied love, /That like most feeling is 47:

So my embodied love/Which, like most feeling, is 52-76.

24 *Asks neighborhood from you. 47:/Asks neighbourhood of you. 52-76.

Deftly, admiral, cast your fly

[Horizon, November 1948, ‘Song’; Voices, Spring 1949*; New York Herald Tribune,
24 April 1949*; N, ‘Song’; SP 58; CSP 66, ‘Five Songs, I’; CP 76]

11 The great wines of the Chateaux. 48-76. (châteaux 48; Châteaux 58:)

13 Do not turn, do not lift, your eyes 48-58:

Do not turn, do not lift your eyes 66, 76.

15 *On the bridge outside your memories, 48:

On the bridge between your properties, 52-76.

17-18 *In its glory and its power/This is their hour. 48:

In its glory, in its power,/This is their hour. 52-76.

In an upper room at midnight

(N, ‘The Love Feast’; CSP 66; CP 76)
5 *Louis telling Anne 52: Lou is telling Anne 66, 76.
21-22 *Who is Jenny lying to/By long-distance telephone? 52:
   Who is Jenny lying to/In her call, Collect, to Rome? 66, 76.

Let out where two fears intersect, a point selected
[N, ‘Air Port’; CSP 66, ‘In Transit’; CP 76]
10 and children one cannot trust 52: and children one cannot trust, 66, 76.
33-34 *But here we are nowhere, unrelated to day or our mother/Earth 52:
   But here we are nowhere, unrelated to day or to Mother/Earth 66, 76.
37 *As object for speculation, aggressive creatures 52:
   As objects for speculation, aggressive creatures 66, 76.
46-47 *a maculate city is spared/Through the prayers of illiterate saints 52:
   maculate cities are spared/Through the prayers of illiterate saints, 66, 76.

There is a time to admit how much the sword decides,
(Botteghe Oscure, 2 (1948)*; Nation, 22 April 1950, ‘Ischia (for Brian Howard)’; N;
CSP 66; CP 76)
(Capitalizations at the head of the lines have been changed to small letters, except where
sentences begin, from 66.)
6 *Who, turning back from the crusaders’ harbour, broke 50-76.
   (harbor, 50: who, 66, 76.)
9 *To see all penniless creatures as his siblings. But 50:
   To see all penniless creatures as his siblings: Then 52:
   to see all penniless creatures as our siblings. Then 66, 76.
17-18 *I am presently moved/By sun-drenched Parthenopeai, 50-76.
   (by 66, 76. *Parthenopeia, 50; Parthenopea, 66, 76.)
21 *From gross productive cities. How well you correct 50:
   From soiled productive cities. How well you correct 52-76. (from 66, 76.)
24 *Under your uniform light. 50:
   Underneath your uniform light. 52-76. (underneath 66, 76.)
31 Which betray her secret fever 50-76. (which 66, 76. fever, 66, 76.)
42 A southern point, sheer-sided Capri who by herself 50-76. (Capri, 50:)
49 *From the aragonian grape distil, your amber wine, 50-76. (from 66, 76. distill, 50:)
50 Your coffee-coloured honey, we believe that our 50-76.
   (your 66, 76. coffee-colored 50:)
58 Of utter protest at what is the case or his 50-76. (of 66, 76. case, 50:)
61-62 *Far from tall Restituta’s all too watchful eye,
   Whose patronage, they say, is annually bought with blood. 50:
   Far from tall Restituta’s all-too-watchful eye,
   Whose annual patronage, they say, is bought with blood. 52-76.
63-64 That, blessed and formidable/Lady, we hope is not true; 50-76.
66 *That these days of exotic splendour may stand out 50-76. (splendor 50:)

What there is as a surround to our figures

(Commentary, May 1949, ‘Pleasure Island’*; N; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76)
10 *Upon shadowless sand. 52, 58:/Upon unshadowed sand. 66, 76.
77-78 Ask as one might the time or a trifle/Extra her money and his life. 52, 58:
Ask, as one might the time or a trifle/Extra, her money and her life. 66, 76.

Having finished the Blue-plate Special

(New Yorker, 12 February 1949, ‘In Schrafft’s’*; N; CSP 66; CP 76)
(No change between the last three versions.)

The piers are pummelled by the waves;

(Horizon, April 1947, ‘The Fall of Rome (to C.C.)’*; Nation, 14 June 1947*; N; SP 58; CSP 66; SP 68: I and Thou, January-February 1969*; CP 76)
13 *Cerebrotonic Cato may 52-76. (Catos 58:)

The Emperor’s favourite concubine

(N, ‘Music Ho’; CSP 66 (p. 271), ‘Five Songs, II’; CP 76 (p. 438))
(1 *favourite 52, 66: favorite 76.)

Their learned kings bent down to chat with frogs;

(Mademoiselle, October 1947, ‘Nursery Rhyme’*; N; CSP 66; CP 76)
(No change between the last three versions.)

In the bad old days it was not so bad:

(Horizon, November 1948, ‘The Managers’; N; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76)
6 *Objects, books, girls, horses 48-76. (Objets, 48:)
14 *For the sort of Powers 48:/For the species of Powers 52-76.
20 On a dolphin, naked, 48-76. (naked 48:)
28-29 *Rests today with quiet/Men, 48: Rests today with such quiet/Men, 52-76.
38-39 From problems no smiling/Can dismiss; the typewriters never stop 48-76.
(dismiss. The 66, 76.)
43-44 *From woods unaltered by our wars and vows
Drift the scent of flowers 48:
From woods unaltered by our wars and our vows
There drift the scents of flowers 52-76.
49 Can be trained to observe; far into the night 48-76. (observe. Far 66, 76.)
Their windows burn brightly,
And behind, their backs bent over some report
On every quarter

Their windows burn brightly
And, behind their backs bent over some report,
On every quarter,

There on the earth the reason (earth, 48:)

*seeking/Someone to blame; then if, to recuperate,/They go out to play,
(blime. If, 66, 76.)

To rule is a calling,/It seems, like surgery or sculpture, 48:

To rule must be a calling,/It seems, like surgery or sculpture, 52-76.

The eyes of the crow and the eye of the camera open

"In the self-same point that our soul is made sensual, in the self-same point is the City of God ordained to him from without beginning. Juliana of Norwich" is attached to each version except that of SP 58.)

*Onto Homer's world, not ours. First and last (On to 49:)

but She/Does nothing and does not care, 49-76. (care. 66, 76.)

*From wherever he happened to be: the City rose 49:

From wherever he happened to be; the New City rose 52-76.

*The facts and acts of the City bore a double meaning: 49:

The facts, the acts of the City bore a double meaning: 52-76.

*Her loves to bear with fear; insecure, she endured. 49:

Her loves were to bear with her fear; insecure, she endured. 52-76.

*The groundlings wept as on a secular stage 49-76. (groundling 49:)

Nature was put to the question in the Prince's name; 49-76. (Question 66, 76.)

*The ironic smile became the ironic and devout, 49:

The ironic smile became the worldly and devout, 52-76.
In a national capital Mirabeau and his set. (capitol 49:) 
Sleeping little, they pushed on, raised the flag of the Word. (word 49:) 
Led by hated parental shades, 49:/Guided by hated parental shades, 52-76. 
Suicide picked them off; sunk off Cape Consumption, 49-76. (Suicides 49:) 

But where it likes a place, a path, a railroad ends, 49-58: 
But, where it likes, a place, a path, a railroad ends, 66, 76. 
The humour, the cuisine, the rites, the taste, 49-76. (humor 76.) 
It makes our sorry fig-leaf at the Sneerers' Ball, 49-76. (Sneerers Ball, 49:) 
our Image is the same/Awake or dreaming: It has no image to admire, 49-76. 
(20 image 49: 21 it 49:) 
Is it our friend? 49-76. (It 76.) 
No; that is our hope; that we weep and It does not grieve, 
That for It the wire and the ruins are not the end: 49-76. 
(26 No, 49: and it 49: 27 for it 49:) 
There is the flesh we are but never would believe, 49: 
This is the flesh we are but never would believe, 52-76. 
There is Adam, waiting for his City. 49: 
This is Adam waiting for His City. 52-76. 

Let his weakness speak 49:/Let Our Weakness speak 52; 66, 76. 
(An introductory line to Part IV; omitted in 58.) 
Without me Adam would have fallen with Lucifer; 49: 
Without me Adam would have fallen irrevocably with Lucifer; 52-76. 
he would never have been given the chance to cry O felix culpa! 49: 
he would never have been able to cry O felix culpa. 52-76. 
my indecision cost Adonis his life. 49:/my frailty cost Adonis his life. 52-76. 
I was not taken in by the sheep's-eyes of Narcissus nor by whining Echo; 49: 
I was not taken in by the sheep's-eyes of Narcissus; 52-76 
Had he listened to me Oedipus would never have left Corinth; 49-76. (to me, 49:) 
To me the Saviour permitted His Fifth Word from the cross; 49-76. 
(His fifth word 49:) 
I was the unwelcome third at the meetings of Tristan with Isolda; 49-76. 
(with Isolde; 49:) 
I rode with Galahad on his Quest for the San Graal; 49-76. 
(on his quest for the San Grail; 49:) 
It was the just impediment to the marriage of Faustus and Helen; 49: 
It was the just impediment to the marriage of Faustus with Helen; 52-76. 
Hamlet I had no patience with; 49:/With Hamlet I had no patience; 52-76. 
I was the missing item in Don Juan's list; 49:
I was the missing entry in Don Giovanni's list; 52-76.

14 *I assisted Figaro the Barber in every intrigue; 49:
I assisted Figaro the Barber in all his intrigues; 52-76.
when Prince Tamino arrived at wisdom I too obtained my reward. 49-76.
(wisdom, 49:)

16 *As for Metropolis, that once-great city; 49:
As for Metropolis, that too-great city; 52-76.

17 *to all who dwell on the fashionable side of her mirrors, 49:
to all who dwell on the public side of her mirrors 52-76. (mirrors, 66, 76.)

Yes, these are the dog-days, Fortunatus:

[Horizon, October 1949, ‘Under Sirius’; N; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]

8 *Drug as she may, 49: Drug as he may 52: Drug as she may 58:
Drug though She may, 66, 76.

8-9 *the sibyl utters/A gush of table-chat. 49-58: (table-chat: 49:)
the sybil utters/A gush of table-chat. 66, 76.

15 Some earthquake would astonish 49-76. (astonish, 66, 76.)

21 When, serene in their ivory vessels, 49-76. (When serene 49:)

33-34 *Where and whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now.
Where and to whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now. 52-66:

(33 silence, 66, 76. 34 drown, 66, 76.)

42 The immortal nymphs fly shrieking 49-76. (shrieking, 66, 76.)

44 The pantocratic riddle breaks— 49-76. (breaks;— 49:)

There were lead-mines here before the Romans,

[N, ‘Not in Baedeker’; CSP 66; CP 76]

1 52-76. (Romans 66, 76.)

15 *A certain day (whether of time or of rock 52, 66:
A certain day (whether of time or rock 76.

29-30 *Where and whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now.

Where and to whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now. 52-66:

76.

51/52 (stanza break) 52: (no stanza break) 66, 76.

Sirocco brings the minor devils:

[Horizon, October 1949, ‘Cattivo Tempo’; N; CSP 66; CP 76]

4 *Announces that they are back, 49:/Announces they are back, 52-76.

8-9 Nibbar, demon/Of ga-ga and bêtise, 49-76. (bêtise, 49:)

10-11 *Tubervillus, demon/Of gossip and spite. 49-76. (Tubervillus, 49:)

23 *Tubervillus to the dining-room 49-76. (Tubervillus 49:)

(33 silence, 66, 76. 34 drown, 66, 76.)

42 The immortal nymphs fly shrieking 49-76. (shrieking, 66, 76.)

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[N, ‘Not in Baedeker’; CSP 66; CP 76]

1 52-76. (Romans 66, 76.)

15 *A certain day (whether of time or of rock 52, 66:
A certain day (whether of time or rock 76.

29-30 *Where and whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now.

Where and to whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now. 52-66:

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1 52-76. (Romans 66, 76.)

15 *A certain day (whether of time or of rock 52, 66:
A certain day (whether of time or rock 76.

29-30 *Where and whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now.

Where and to whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now. 52-66:

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1 52-76. (Romans 66, 76.)

15 *A certain day (whether of time or of rock 52, 66:
A certain day (whether of time or rock 76.

29-30 *Where and whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now.

Where and to whom the more than one large fortune/Made here has got to now. 52-66:

76.

51/52 (stanza break) 52: (no stanza break) 66, 76.
In mischief blurt/The half-home-truth, 49-76. (The half home truth, 49;)

To tear up the poem, 49-76. (poem 66:)

*Or the monarchist fishermen to tell 49, 52:
Or the monarchist fisherman to tell 66, 76.

Absence of heart—as in public buildings,
[N, ‘The Chimeras’; Times Literary Supplement, 9 March 1951*; CSP 66; CP 76]
1 52-76 (buildings—66, 76.)
2 Absence of mind—as in public speeches, 52-76. (speeches—66, 76.)
7 Indescribable—being neither this nor that, 52-76. (that—66, 76.)
8 Uncountable—being any number, 52-76. (number—66, 76.)
11 It is our fault entirely if we do; 52-76. (do: 66, 76.)
13 Curious from wantonness—to see what they are like, 52-76. (like—66, 76.)
14 Cruel from fear—to put a stop to them, 52-76. (them—66, 76.)
15 Incredulous from conceit—to prove they cannot be, 52-76. (be—66, 76.)

That we are always glad
[Ladies’ Home Journal, August 1950, ‘Secrets’*; N; CSP 66; CP 76]
2-4 *When the Ugly Princess parting the bushes
To find out why the woodcutter’s children are happy
Disturbs a hornet’s nest, that we feel no pity 52-76.
(2 Princess, 66, 76. 3 happy, 66, 76. 4 hornets’ nest, 66, 76.)
9 A Runic riddle which he then translates, 52-76. (translates: 66, 76.)

The Kingdom of Number is all boundaries
[N, ‘Numbers and Faces’; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]
11 *Well purged, somatotyped, baptised, taught baseball, 52-76.
(baptized, 58: baptised, 59: baseball: 66, 76.)

What we know to be not possible (See p. 54.)

When, to disarm suspicious minds at lunch
[N, ‘A Household’; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]
2 Before coming to the point or at golf, 52-76. (point, 66, 76.)
6 Of his bride so worshipped and so early lost. 52-76. (lost, 66, 76.)
24/25 (no stanza break) 52: (stanza break) 58-76.
31-32 Besides, (which might explain why he has neither
Altered his will nor called the doctor in) 52-76.
(31 Besides 76. 32 in), 76.)
All winter long the huge sad lady


4 *The purlieus are shaken by his sharp cry. 52:

The purlieus are shaken by his wild cry. 66, 76.

6 His wildernesses from her floral side 52-76. (side, 66, 76.)

18 *She sang the disappointment and the fear 52:

She sang the disappointment that is Man 66, 76.

34-35 a royal wine/Is poured out for the subtle pudding, 52-76.

(pudding: 66, 76.)

37 And blue birds bless us from the fences, 52-76. (fences: 66, 76.)

Behold the manly mesomorph

[N, ‘Footnotes to Dr. Sheldon’; CSP 66 (p. 269), the 4th and 5th of the ‘Shorts’; CP 76 (p. 436)]

1

2 *Showing his splendid biceps off, 52; /Showing his bulging biceps off, 66, 76.

10 *Fastidious, slightly girling, in the night 52:

Fastidious, almost girlish, in the night 66, 76.

11 When the proud-arsed broad-shouldered break and run 52-76. (run, 66, 76.)

2

1 Give me a doctor partridge-plump, 52-76. (doctor, 66, 76.)

3 An endomorph with gentle hands 52-76. (hands, 66, 76.)

5 That I abandon all my vices 52-76. (vices, 66, 76.)

Ares at last has quit the field,


(According to the Bibliography (2nd ed., 1972, p. 197; item C 308), the Harvard Alumni Bulletin text has two forms, an ‘uncorrected’ one in the first printed numbers, and a ‘corrected’ one in the last printed numbers. I wish to incorporate in the following list the three variants mentioned, since two of them are interesting as instances of the first periodical version where misprints tend to occur owing to Auden’s difficult handwriting. 46a stands for the uncorrected, and 46b for the corrected, text.)

5-6 *The ruined towns associate/With summer flowers. 46a:

The fructured towns associate/With summer flowers. 46b-76.

2-3 The bloodstains on the bushes yield/To seeping showers, 47-76. (showers. 47:)

16 *And nerves that never flinched at slaughter/Are shot to pieces 47, 52:
And nerves that steeled themselves to slaughter/Are shot to pieces 66, 76.

23 They met some big wheels, and do not/Let you forget it. 47-76. (wheels and 47:)

26-27 Permits the will-to-disagree/To be pandemic, 47-76. (the will to disagree 47:)

28 Ordains that vaudeville shall preach 47-76. (preach, 47:)

47 All ages and somatic types, 47-76. (types: 47:)

58-59 *Apollo's children never shrink/From boring jobs 47; 66, 76.

62-63 *A compromise between them is/Impossible; 47:

64 Respect perhaps but friendship never: 47-76. (perhaps, 47:)

66/67 *So, standing here, surrounded by

The eyes of Miltons and the high

Foreheads of Shaws,

A Hermes man, I call on you,

Phi-Beta-Kappa brethren, to

Defend his cause. 47:

(the 12th stanza of the Harper's version, cut) 52-76.

70 He loves to rule, has always done it; 47-76. (it: 47:)

73-74 But jealous of our god of dreams, /His common-sense in secret schemes 47-76.

(But, 47: common sense 47:)

86-87 *For him, to work in solitude/Is the offence, 47-76. (offense, 47:)

97 *His radio Hermes all day long 46a; /His radio Homers all day long 46b-76.

103 His, too, each homely lyric thing 47-76. (His too 47:)

104 *On sport or spousal love or spring 46a; /On sport or spousal love or spring 46b-76.

106 Invented by some court-house bard 47-76. (courthouse 47:)

110-111 And sets of fugal variations /On some folk-ballad, 47-76. (folk ballad, 47:)

113-114 A glass of prune-juice or a nice/Marsh-mallow salad. 47-76.

(prune juice 47: Marshmallow 47:)

119 Rain down on our defenceless heads 47-76. (defenseless 47:)

127-128 *No matter. He shall be defied. /We have the ladies on our side. 47:

No matter; He shall be defied; /White Aphrodite is on our side: 52-76.

131-132 *Zeus willing, we, the unpolitical, /Shall beat him yet. 47-76.

(unpolitical 47: best him 47:)

135 *Our facts defend, 47; 66, 76. /Our fact defend, 52:

136-137 Our intellectual marines, /Landing in little magazines 47-76.

(Little Magazines, 47: little magazines, 76.)

149-150 Keep well the Hermetic Decalogue, /Which runs as follows:— 47-76.

(follows: 47:)

158 Or quizzes upon World-Affairs, 47-76. (World Affairs, 47:)

173 Read The New Yorker, trust in God; 47-76. (the New Yorker; 47:)

171-172 If thou must choose /Between the chances, choose the odd; 47-76 (odd: 76.)
When things began to happen to our favourite spot,


(Initial capitalizations at the head of lines are changed to small letters, except where sentences begin, in 66 and 76.)

3 Then on the tennis-court one morning, 48-76. (morning 48:)
4 Outrageous, the bloody corpse and always, 48-76. (corpse, and 66, 76.)
5 *Day after day, 48: Blank day after day, 52-76.
6 *not speechless with shock 48: not speechless from shock 52-76.
7-8 *did most to/Prevent a panic. 48: did much to/Prevent a panic. 52-76.
9 We know; but would gratefully add 48:/We know, but would gratefully add, 52-76.
10-11 Today as we wait for the Law to take its course,
   (And which of us shall escape whipping?) 48-76.
   (10 To-day 48; 66, 76. law 48: course 66, 76. 11 whipping?), 66, 76.)

Orchestras have so long been speaking

(The American Scholar, Autumn 1947, 'Music Is International'; Horizon, October 1947*; N, 'Music Is International' (Phi Beta Kappa Poem, Columbia, 1947)'; CSP 66; CP 76)

8-9 germs besiege/The walled towns and among the living 47-76. (towns, 47:)
12 *Among the staring blemishes that mark 47:
   Among those staring blemishes that mark 52-76.
13-14 *it is easy/To guess what dreams such vaulting cries release: 47-76. (dream 47:)
18 Unpolicied air. But what is our hope 47-76. (hope, 47; 66, 76.)
26 *As some natural lovejoy deigns to woo, 47:
   As some elegant lovejoy deigns to woo 52-76.
35-36 *As Shaw says: “Music is the brandy/Of the damned.” 47:
   As Shaw says—Music is the brandy/Of the damned. 52:
   As Shaw said—Music is the brandy/Of the damned. 66, 76.
39-40 With a visceral A-ha; fill a/Dwarf’s ears 47-76. (a-ha; 47:)
42-44 Metaphor bamboozles the most oppressed;
   —As a trombone the clerk will bravely
   Go oompah-oompah to his minor grave: 47:
   Metaphor bamboozles the most oppressed
   —As a trombone the clerk will bravely
   Go oompah-oompah to his minor grave— 52-76. (44 grave—, 66, 76.)
45 So that today one recognises 47-76. (recognizes 47:)
51-52 many/Promising days end badly and again 47-76. (badly, 47; 66, 76.)
53 We shall offend: but let us listen 47-76. (offend. But 47:)
61-62 Will rejoice at the sudden mansion/Of any joy; besides, 47-76. (joy: 47:)
64-65 Remember when we were happy—one such
Future would be the exile’s ending 47-76.
(64 happy. One 47: 65 ending, 47:)

67-68 Another to be short of breath yet
Staying on to oblige, postponing death— 47-76.
(67 Another, 47: 68 death. 47:)

72-74 *to the sick, /Sad, soiled prosopon of our ageing/Present 47-76. (aging 47:)

Be patient, solemn nose,

[Harper's, October 1950, 'Precious Five'*; N; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76]
3 The present moment well 52-76. (well, 66, 76.)
6 With grand scents of the past; 52-76. (past. 66, 76.)
11 Has all been altered, now 52-76. (altered; 66, 76.)
21 *Point, then, for honour’s sake 52-76. (honor’s 76.)
28 *The paranoic mind 52, 58: The paranoiac mind 59-76.
32 It cannot take pure fiction 52-76. (fiction, 66, 76.)
34 *Are rumours partly true; 52-76. (rumors 76.)
56 Unknown to you will know; 52-76. (know. 66, 76.)
59 *Which pulverised the trolls 52-76. (pulverized 58:)
89 Their humour to her passion, 52-76. (humor 76.)
101 Have both found favour; praise 52-76. (favor; 76.)
108 In honour of Another, 52-76. (honor 76.)
111 That animal of taste 52-76. (taste, 66, 76.)
118 *Telling for Her dear sake 52: 66, 76. /Telling of Her dear sake 58, 59:
143-144 What else am I made for, /Agreeing or disagreeing. 52-76. (disagreeing? 66, 76.)

A cloudless night like this
[Commonweal, 11 March 1949, 'A Walk After Dark'*; N; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76]
2 Can set the spirit soaring; 52-76. (soaring: 66-76.)
10 *Be as shocking as they said 52:/Be so shocking as they said 66-76.
15 *When one starts to dislike the young, 52, 66:
   When one starts to resent the young, 68, 76.

THE SHIELD OF ACHILLES

From bad lands where eggs are small and dear
(SA, 'For Lincoln & Fidelma Kirstein' (Dedicatory poem, in italics); SP 58 (Epigraph to the volume, in italics); CSP 66, p. 270, the last of the 'Shorts'; CP 76, p. 437)
1 55-76. (dear, 58-76.)
by a stonier/Track, when all are spent we hear it—the right song 55-76.

Fair is Middle-Earth nor changes, though to Age,

I. BUCOLICS

Deep below our violences,

Sylvan meant savage in those primal woods

I know a retired dentist who only paints mountains,
17 *Are grown on crags in castles: those unsmiling parties, 54:
   Are bred on crags in castles; those unsmiling parties, 55-76. (castles. Those 66-76.)
20-21 They have balance, nerve, /And habit of the Spiritual, 54-76.
   (nerve 54: Spiritual 54:)
26-27 *How can I, when/I wish I stood now on a platform at Penrith, 54-76.
   (I when 54: *on the platform 54:)
30 *Tunnels being, red farms disappear, 54:
   Tunnels begin, red farms disappear, 55-76.
36 And a style of gossip. To manage the Flesh, 54-76. (Flesh 54:)
38 *Stand over her day and night who make it so clear 54:
   Stand over her day and night who make it so plain 55-76.
39 They detest any kind of growth, does not encourage 54-76. (growth 54:)
40 Euphemisms for the effort: here wayside crucifixes 54-76. (effort. Here 54:)
42-43 And serenades too/ Stick to bare fact; ‘O my girl has a goitre, 54-76.
   (serenades, too, 54: fact—‘O 54: fact: ‘O 58; 76.)
45 *The boy behind his goats 54:/ That boy behind his goats 55-76.
47 That fled with bronze before a tougher metal. 54-76. (metal, 54; 66-76.)
48 *And the quiet old gentleman 54:/ And that quiet old gentleman 55-76.
49 With a cheap room at the Black Eagle used to own 54-76. (The Black Eagle 54:)
51 These farms can always see a panting government coming; 54-76. (The farms 54:)
52 I’m nordic myself, but even so 54-76. (myself 54:)
58 *Where the highspirited son of a gloomy tarn 54:
   Where the high-spirited son of some gloomy tarn 55-76.
59 Comes sprinting down through a green croft, 54-76. (croft 54:)
61-62 Like a Chinese poem while, near enough, a real darling
   Is cooking a delicious lunch would keep me happy for 54:
   Like a Chinese poem, while, near enough, a real darling
   Is cooking a delicious lunch, would keep me happy for 55-76.
63-64 For an un-catlike/Creature who has gone wrong, 54-76.
   (un-catlike 54: wrong 54:)
65-66 *Five minutes on even the nicest mountain/Is awfully long. 54-58:
   Five minutes on even the nicest mountain/Are awfully long. 66-76.

A lake allows an average father, walking slowly,

(New Poems by American Poets (ed. by R. Humphries, 1953)*; SA, ‘4. Lakes (For Isaiah Berlin)’; SP 58, ‘Lakes’; CSP 66, ‘4. Lakes (For Isaiah Berlin); CP 76]
45 One Fall, one dispossession, is enough I'm sorry; 55-76. (enough, 66-76.)

Old saints on millstones float with cats
[Sa, '5. Islands (For Giocondo Sacchetti)'; Sp 58; CSP 66, '5. Islands (For Giovanni Maresca)'; Sp 68; CP 76]

3-4 *Whereon no female pelvis can/Threaten their agape. 55-76. (there agape. 59:)

I can imagine quite easily ending up
[London Magazine, April 1954*; Atlantic, November 1954*; Sa, '6. Plains (For Wendell Johnson)'; Sp 58, 'Plains (For Wendell Johnson)'; CSP 66, '6. Plains (For Wendell Johnson)'; Sp 68; CP 76]

1 *55-76. (*I can image 68:)

7 But I cannot see a plain without a shudder; 55-76. (shudder: 58; 76.)

34 Than any climate, Caesar with all his They. 55-76. (his. They. 68:)

38 How swift to the point of protest strides the Crown. 55-76. (crown. 76.)

40 There are wives to beat. But Zeus is with the strong. 55-76. (strong, 66-76.)

43 *Whence cannon would put the harbour at his mercy), 55-76. (harbor 76.)

55 *But bloodshot images of rivers screaming, 55, 58:

But bloodshot images of rivers howling, 66-76.

67 —Who wouldn't—to shoot beautifully and be obeyed, 55-76. (obeys 76.)

Dear water, clear water, playful in all your streams,
[Encounter, June 1954, 'Streams (For Elizabeth Drew); Atlantic, May 1955, 'Streams'; Sa, '7. Streams (For Elizabeth Drew)'; Perspective USA, 14 (Winter 1956)*; Sp 58, 'Streams'; CSP 66, '7. Streams (For Elizabeth Drew)'; Sp 68; CSP 69; CP 76]

(Strangly enough, the Atlantic version seems to show the earlier form than the Encounter text. Initial capitalizations have been changed to small letters from 66 on except where sentences begin. A stands for the Atlantic version.)

4 Pure being, perfect in music and movement? 54-76.

(Pure Being, A: pure being, 66-76.)

8 Servants in the household of Mrs. Nature. 54-76. (Mrs 58: Mrs. 59:)

13 And still talk to yourself: nowhere are you disliked; 54-76. (disliked. A:)

25 And Homo Ludens, surely, is your child, 54-76. (Homo Ludens, 54, A:)

25-26 who make/Fun of our feuds by opposing identical banks, 54-76. (banks A:)

27-28 *Transferring the loam from Huppim/To Muppim and back 54; 55-76.

(transferring 66-76. to 66-76.)

And transferring the loam from Huppim/To Muppim and back A:

30 Already you whisper to ants what, as Brahma's son, 54-76.

(already 66-76. what as Brahma's Son, A:)

33-34 his company/Coarsens roses and dogs but, should he herd you 54-76.
(49)  W. H. AUDEN’S REVISI NG PROCESS (V) 49

(coarsens 66–76. dogs, but, A:)

35–36 To toil at a turbine, or keep you/Leaping in gardens 54–76.
(to 66–76. turbine or A: leaping 66–76.)

37–38 and there/Even, to his soiled heart raging at what it is, 54–76.
(where, /Even, A: there/even, 66–76.)

39 *Tells of a sort of world, quite other, 54–76. (tells 66–76.)
Speaks of a sort of world, quite other, A:

46–47 Where, off its fell-side helter-skelter, Kisdon Beck/Jumps into Swale 54–76.
(Where A: where, 66–76. helter-skelter A: jumps 66–76.)

48 Sprawled out on grass, I dozed for a second, 54–76. (sprawled 66–76. second A:)

50 In a calm enclosure, with thrushes popular: 54–76. (in 66–76. enclosure A:)

52 The best with the mallet was my darling. 54–76. (darling, A:)

56 *And bird-watchers stalked the mossy beech-woods. 54–59:
and bird-watchers crept through mossy beech-woods. 66–76.

57 Suddenly, over the lawn we started to run 54–76. (lawn, A:)

58 For, lo, through the trees in a cream and golden coach 54–76.
(For lo! A: for, lo, 66–76. through the trees, 66–76.)

63–64 He thanked us for our cheers of homage, /And promised 54–76.
(homage A: and 66–76.)

65 With a wave of his torch he commanded a dance; 54–76. (dance: A:)

66 *So round in a ring we flew, my dear on my right, 54–76.
(so 66–76. sound in a ring 66: round in a ring 69 [paper-bound edition]:)

67–68 But fortunate seemed that/Day because of my dream and enlightened, 54–76.
(day 66–76. dream, A:)

69–70 And dearer, water, than ever your voice, as if/Glad— 54–76.
(and 66–76. voice A: glad— 66–76.)

71–72 *their/Figures of splendour, their holy places. 54–76.
(figures 66–76. splendor, A; 76.)

II. IN SUNSHINE AND IN SHADE

Guard, Civility, with guns
(SA, p. 33, epigraph (in italics) to Section II; CSP 66, p. 270, the 9th of the ‘Shorts’;
CP 76, p. 437)
2 Your modes and your declensions; 55–76. (declensions: 66, 76.)

She looked over his shoulder
(Poetry, October 1952*; SA, ‘The Shield of Achilles’; SP 58; CSP 66; SP 68; CP 76)
10 *No blade of grass, no sign of neighbourhood, 55–76. (neighborhood, 76.)
12–13 stood/An unintelligible multitude. 55–76. (multitude, 66–76.)
Loitered about that vacancy, a bird/Flew up to safety 55–76. (vacancy; 76.)

Of any world where promises were kept, /Or one could weep 55–76.

*Thin-lipped armourer, /Hephaestos hobbled away, 55–76.

The sailors come ashore

But the ships on the dazzling blue /Of the harbour actually gain 55:

But their ships on the vehement blue /Of this harbour actually gain 66–76.

Certainly worth every cent /Of the millions they must have cost. 55, 58:

A shot: from crag to crag

A starling and a willow-wren

What does he want? said the willow-wren,

"Much too much," said the stare. 53:

What does he want? said the willow-wren;

Much too much, said the stare. 55–76. (11 want? 58–76.)
28-29 *Must in awe retire/To let their kinder partners, 53:

Must in awe retire/And let their kinder partners, 55-76.

31 Go in their holy selfishness, 53-76. (selfishness 53:)

33-34 *silently she threw/Her arms around him there. 53:

silently she threw/Her arms about him there: 55-76.

35-36 “Is it only that?” said the willow wren,

“It’s that as well,” said the stare. 53:

*Is it only that? said the willow-wren;

It's that as well, said the stare. 55-76. (35 that? 59-76.)

42-43 *Of the Joy I thank/For you, my dog, and every goody.” 53:

Of that Joy I thank/For you, my dog and every goody.” 53-76.

44-45 *There on that grass bank, /She laughed, he laughed, 53:

There on the grass bank/She laughed, he laughed, 55-76.

46 Then they ate and drank: 53-76. (drank. 53:)

47-48 “Did he know what he meant?” said the willow wren,

“God only knows,” said the stare. 53:

Did he know what he meant? said the willow-wren—

God only knows, said the stare. 55-76.

(47 meant? 59-76.)

‘When rites and melodies begin


21 *And Form and Colour part, 55-76. (Color 76.)

22-23 What swarming hatreds then will hatch/Out of Love’s riven heart’. 55-76.

(heart.’ 58: heart? 66, 76.)

By all means sing of love but, if you do,

[New Yorker, 13 November 1954, ‘The Truest Poetry is the Most Feigning, or, Ars Poetica for Hard Times’; SA, “‘The Truest Poetry is the most Feigning’ (For Edgar Wind)”; CSP 66; CP 76]

4 The Christian answer is cosi-cosi, 55-76. (cosi-cosi; 66, 76.)

5 But poets are not celibate divines; 55-76. (divines: 66, 76.)

22 From such ingenious fibs are poems born: 55-76. (born. 66, 76.)

63-64 *(which He will not: /That silly sausage will be hanged or shot). 55:

(which He will not: /That public nuisance will be hanged or shot). 66-76.

65-66 will write/Shame! in your margins, Today! Hypocrite! 55-76.

(Hypocrite!, 76.)

79-80 That love, or truth in any serious sense,

Like orthodoxy, is a reticence. 55-76. (reticence? 66, 76.)
O where would those choleric boys,
(SA, 'A Sanguine Thought'; CSP 66, p. 269, the 3rd of the 'Shorts'; CP 76, p. 436)
2 Our political orators, be, 55-76. (orators be, 66, 76.)
4 Their igneous figures of speech; 55-76. (speech, 66, 76.)
7 *They could only shut out the draught 55-76. (a draught 66, 76.)

Self-drivers may curse their luck,
(SA, 'A Permanent Way'; SP 58; CSP 66; CP 76)
4 To the dogma of its rails 55-76. (rails, 66, 76.)
24 Of a choice one might have made. 55-76. (made? 66, 76.)

Gently, little boat,
(SA, 'Barcarolle (Aria from The Rake's Progress)') (Not collected.)

Appearing unannounced, the moon
17 *Granted what both of them believe 55-76. (believe, 66, 76.)
29 *My neighbour's face, a face as such, 55-76. (neighbor's 76.)

Make this night loveable,
4-5 Bless me, One especial/And friends everywhere. 55-76. (especial, 66:)

At peace under this mandarin sleep, Lucina,
1 55-76. (mandarin, sleep, 66, 76.)
2 Blue-eyed Queen of white cats: for you the Ischian wave shall weep, 55-76.
(weep 66, 76.)

To save your world you asked this man to die:
(SA, 'Epitaph for the Unknown Soldier'; CSP 66, p. 268, 'Epitaph for the Unknown Soldier' (the second of the 'Shorts'); CP 76, p. 435)
1 55-76. (world, 66, 76.)

From this new culture of the air we finally see,
(Listener, 15 December 1954*; SA, 'Ode to Gaea'; CSP 66; CP 76)
(Capitalizations at the head of lines have been changed to small letters from 66 except where sentences begin.)
40-41 below//Straight as its railroads, 55-76. (below, 66, 76. straight 66, 76.)
43-44 *where the Devil's Causeway/Drew pilgrims seven gods ago, 55:
where the Devil's Causeway/drew pilgrims thirteen gods ago, 66, 76.
49-50 *Tempting to mortals in the fancy of half-concerned/Gods in the sky, 55-76.
(is the fancy 66, 76.)
60 *Most venomous iambics composed 55-76. (most venomous 66, 76.)
64 He came to sigh—so we were taught 55:
He came to sigh. So we were taught 66, 76.
70 Down there, than a kantian conscience; from overhead 55:
down there, than a kantian conscience. From overhead 66, 76.
72 *Farms unroofed and harbour-works wrecked 55-76. (farms 66, 76. harbor-works 76.)
82-83 the stern advise/Tribute and the large-hearted 55-76. (tribute, 66, 76.)
87-88 Or arias by Rossini/Between two entrées by Carême. 55-76.
(or 66, 76. between 66, 76. entrées 66, 76.)
90-92 yet/Justice during his Te Deum/Slipped away 55-76. (slipped 66, 76.)
93 And Earth, till the end, will be herself; she has never been moved 55:
and Earth, till the end, will be Herself. She has never been moved 66, 76.
97 To her, the real one, can our good landscapes be but lies, 55-76. (to Her, 66, 76.)
99-100 That tideless bay where children/Play bishop on a golden shore. 55:
that tideless bay where children/play Bishop on a golden shore? 66, 76.

III. HORAE CANONICAE/‘Immlatus vicerit’

Simultaneously, as soundlessly,
(Published first on the recording Pleasure Dome (1949)*; N, ‘Prime’; SA, ‘1. Prime’;
SP 58, ‘Prime’; CSP 66, ‘1. Prime’; SP 68; CP 76)
9 *Of its rebellious fronde, ill-favored, 52-76.
(iill-favoured, 52: 58-68: ill-favored, 55; 59; 76.)
15 *Without a name of history I wake 55, 58, 59:
Without a name or history I wake 52; 66-76.
23-25 not alone/But with a world and rejoice/Unvexed, 52-76. (world, 52:)
25-26 to claim/This adjacent arm as my own, 52-76. (own. 52:)
27-29 resume/Its routine of praise and blame/And 52-76. (blame, 52; 66-76.)
30-31 Still the day is intact, and I/The Adam 52-76. (intact and 52:)
34-35 No matter what to be wise/To be different to die 52:
No matter what, to be wise, /To be different, to die 55-76.
35-37 and the cost/No matter how is Paradise/Lost of course 52:
and the cost, / No matter how, is Paradise / Lost of course 55-76.

This ready flesh / No honest equal, but my accomplice now / My assassin to be, 52-76.

(equal but 52: now, 66-76. to be 52:)

After shaking paws with his dog,


1 55-76. (dog 66-76.)

2 (Whose bark would tell the world that he is always kind,) 55-76. (kind), 66-76.)

6-7 Gently closing the door of his wife’s bedroom,

(Today she has one of her headaches) 55-76.

(bedroom 66-76. headaches), 66-76.)

15-17 the Big ones / Who can annihilate a city, / Cannot be bothered 55-76. (city 66-76.)

17-18 we are left, / Each to his secret cult, 55-76. (cult. 66-76.)

18-19 now each of us / Prays to an image of his image of himself; 55-76.

(Now 66-76. himself: 58; 76.)

31 Then why are we here, why is there even dust?) 55-76. (dust?), 66-76.)

35 Without a hitch, that today, for once, 55-76. (to-day, 58: today 59:)

You need not see what someone is doing


I

14-15 to pray instead to St. Phocas, / St. Barbara, 55-76.

(St Phocas, //St Barbara, 58:)

29-31 slaves of Dame Kind, lacking // all notion of a city // and, 55-76. (city, 66-76.)

II

8 realizes in a flash what was wrong // with his hypothesis when, 55-76.

(hypothesis, 66-76.)

9-10 from a glance at the jury, the prosecutor, // knows the defendant will hang 55-76.

(prosecutor/knows 58; 68, 76.)

17-18 You may not like them much / (Who does?) but we owe them 55-76. ((who 76.)

32 poison-pens, think of the inbreeding) 55-76. (inbreeding), 66-76.)

III

19-20 the crowd sees only one thing // (which only the crowd can see) 55-76.

(see), 66-76.)

24-25 in whatever way he believes, // (no two are exactly alike) 55-76.

(believes 66-76. alike), 66-76.)

41-42 at this noon, on this hill, // in the occasion of this dying. 55-76. (dying? 66-76.)

What we know to be not possible,
Before we realize it: we are surprised
And uneasy: It is barely three, /Mid-afternoon, 52-76.

Have all melted away: not one/Of these
So loudly in the sunshine this morning; 52:

The hangman has gone to wash, the soldiers to eat: 52-76.
The Madonna of the fig-tree, 52-76.
Fix their gaze on our completed work: 52-76.
Crane and pick-axe wait to be used again, 52-76.
Abandoned branch-lines, worn lop-sided/Grindstones 52-76.
The aim of our chalk-pit game; stamps, 52-76.

*Birds' eggs are not the same, behind the wonder 52-76.
To follow after: wherever/The sun shines, 52-76.
The empty blue bus in the empty pink square/Fill up and depart: 52:
The Madonna of the fig-tree,

Its meaning/Waits for our lives: sooner than we would choose 52-76.
(lives. Sooner 52: 66-76.)

water will burn,/And the great quell begin, Abaddon/Set up 52-76.
(fat Belial make/Our wives waltz naked; meanwhile 52-76.
That our dreaming wills may seem to escape/This dead calm, 52: 58-76.
What our dreaming wills may seem to escape/This dead calm, 55:
And doors marked Private, pursued by Moors 52-76.

and telephones ring,/Inviting trouble, 52-76.
to a room,/Lit by one weak bulb, where our Double sits 52-76.
(That 52: away 52:)
Not knowing quite what has happened, but awed/By death 52-76.
(happened 52:)

*The bug whose view is balked by grass, 52-76.

If the hill overlooking our city has always been known as Adam's Grave,
CSP 66, ‘5. Vespers’; SP 68; CP 76)

(Numerals on the left of the lines denote the number of verse-paragraphs. E stands for the *Encounter* version. In the 58 and 59 texts all paragraph breaks are removed.)

1-2 his right arm resting for ever on Eve’s haunch, // can you learn, E-76.

(haunch, /Can 58: haunch/ can 59:)

2-3 what a citizen really thinks of his citizenship, // just as now you can hear E-76.

(citizenship. / Just 58: citizenship, / just 59:)

3-4 * perceive a disconsolate soul, // scanning in desperation E:

   perceive a disconsolate soul, // scanning with desperation 55-76.

   (soul. / Scanning 58: soul, scanning 59: [two paragraphs joined])

7 *Both simultaneously recognise his Anti-type: E-76. (recognize 58:)

13 He hopes they will behave like *baritoni cattivi*, and, when lights burn E-76.

   (baritoni cattivi and E:)

13-14 when lights burn late in the Citadel, // I (who have never seen E-76.

   (Citadel. / I 58: Citadel, I 59: [two paragraphs joined])

14 and think: ‘Were the city as free as they say, E-76. (think, 66-76. “Were E:)

   after sundown all her bureaus would be huge black stones.’ : E-76.

   (stones: E: stones: 58, 59:)

15 is not shocked at all but thinks: ‘One fine night our boys will be E-76.

   (thinks, 66-76. “One E:)

20 but we have no morals; In his New Jerusalem the temples will be empty E-76.

   (morals: in E: morals: In 58-76.)

21-22 through the short brick tunnel and // there I stand in Eden again, E-76.

   (and there 58, 59: [two paragraphs joined])

22 welcomed back by the krum-horns, doppions, sordumes E-76. (krumhorns, 58, 59:)

   and a bob major from the Cathedral (romanesque) of St. Sophie (*Die Kalte*): E-76.

   (St Sophie 58, 59:)

23-24 and fish-wives intervene in the Chamber or // some autumn night E-76.

   (Chamber, E: or/ Some 58: or/ some 59:)

24 of delations and noyades when the unrepentant thieves E-76. (noyades, 66-76.)

25 So with a passing glance we take the other’s posture: already E-76.

   (So, E: posture: Already E: posture; already 58, 59: posture. Already 66-76.)

26-27 loyal to different fibs, // or E-76.

   (fibs. / Or 58: fibs/ or 59: fibs? / Or 66-76.)

27 *also a rendezvous between accomplices E-59:

   also a rendezvous between two accomplices 66-76.

27-28 who, in spite of themselves, cannot resist meeting // to remind the other E-76.

   (meeting. / To 58: meeting/ to 59:)

28-29 which he would most like to forget, // forcing us both, E-76.

   (forget, forcing 58 [two paragraphs joined]: forget/forcing 59:)


29–30 but for me he could forget the innocence) on whose immolation E–76.

( innocence). (On 58: innocence) on 59: innocence), on 66–76.)

30 arcadias, utopias, our dear old bag of a democracy, are alike founded: E–76.

(democracy 66–76.)

Now, as desire and the things desired

[ SA, ‘6. Compline’; SP 58, ‘Compline’; CSP 66, 6. Compline’; SP 68; SP 76]

41–42 bribes nor threats/Will get them to blab—and then 55–76.

(blab, and then, 66, 68: blab—and then, 76.)

Among the leaves the small birds sing;


5 *Men of their neighbours become sensible: 55–76. (neighbors 76.)

10 *Men of their neighbours become sensible; 55–76. (neighbors 76.)
INTRODUCTORY NOTES
This article lists the variant readings found between the poems originally included in *Homage to Clio* (Faber and Faber, 1960) and the versions preceding and succeeding them.

The first line of each poem given at the head of each list is from the Faber and Faber first edition text. In the square brackets, the titles of the periodicals that could not be seen are starred; the title of a version of a poem is not given if identical with that of the preceding version; the abbreviations used are as follows:

- OMR = *The Old Man's Road* (Voyage Press, 1956)
- HC = *Homage to Clio* (Faber & Faber, 1960; Random House, revised third impression, 1967)
- AH = *About the House* (Random House, 1965; Faber & Faber, 1966)
- CSP = *Collected Shorter Poems 1927–1957* (Faber & Faber, 1966)
- SP = *Selected Poems* (Faber & Faber, 1968; revised edition, 1972)

The italicized numerals given after each variant reading show a version by its publication date: e.g., 60, 60R, 76, and 78 designate, respectively, the reading of the HC (Faber first edition), HC (Random House third impression), CP (first printing), and CP (Random House corrected printing) texts.

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June 1980 Y.S.Y.

* Faculty of Education, Iwate University
Bullroarers cannot keep up the annual rain,

[Bull-roarers 66-78.]
1  60-78. (Bull-roarers 66-78.)

3  Sinks, will keep on sinking: but why complain? — Against odds, 60-78.  
   (complain? Against 66-78.)
4  *Methods of dry farming may still produce grain. 60:
   Methods of dry-farming shall still produce grain. 66-78.

Between those happenings that prefigure it

[HC, epigraph to Part I; CP, p. 539, the first of the ‘Shorts I’]
3-4  but that no human wit/Can recognise until all happening ceases. 60-78.
   (recognize 60R-78.)

Our hill has made its submission and the green

[Encounter, Nov. 1955, ‘Homage to Clio’; OMR; HC; CSP; CP]
3-4  *flowers duel incessantly,/Color against color, in combats 55-78.
   (Colour against colour 55, 56; 66-76.)
7  Of a new generation of birds who chirp 55-78. (chirp, 66-78.)
14-15  to observation/My book is dead, 55-78. (dead 55, 56.)
15-16  and by observation they live/In space, 55-78. (live, 55, 56.)
17  As Provocative Aphrodite or her twin,/Virago Artemis, 55-78. (provocative 55, 56.)
21-22  *Why nothing is too big or too small or the wrong/Color, 55-78.
   (Colour, 55, 56; 66, 76.)
28  Of phallic pillar or navel-stone 55-78. (navel stone 55, 56.)
31  *Between us and any magical centre 55-78. (center 60R.)
33-34  Woken at sun-up to hear/A cock pronouncing himself himself 55-78.
   (sunup 60R.)
37-38  at least I know/The beast-with-two-backs may be a species 55-78.
   (The beast with two backs 55, 56.)
39-40  but Mum and Dad/Were not two other people. 55-78. (mum and dad 55, 56.)
42-43  To count the loves one has grown out of,/Is not nice, 55-78. (out of 55, 56.)
43  but to chirp like a tearless bird, 55-78. (bird 55, 56.)
47-48  One-eye-for-one would be just and the innocent/Would not have to suffer. 55-78.
   (One eye for one 55, 56.)
59  *Whom the colossus must be), but what icon 55-78. (Who 56.)
67-68  *defending with silence/Each world of your beholding, 55:
   defending with silence/Some world of your beholding, 56-78.
68-69  a silence//No explosion can conquer but a lover’s Yes 55-78. (yes 55, 56.)
73  Why, up and down like the Duke of Cumberland, 55-78. (Cumberland 55, 56.)
The Short, the Bald, the Pious, the Stammerer went 55, 56:
As the children of Artemis go, 55-78. (go 55, 56 :)
Is out of the question, says Aphrodite, 55-78. (Aphrodite 55, 56 :)
Approachable as you seem, I dare not ask you 55-78. (seem 55, 56 :)
For you do not look as if you ever read them 55-78. (them, 66-78.)

Within a shadowland of trees
[Reflections in a Forest (a broadside, 1957); DePauw Alumnus, Dec. 1957*; Listener, 23 July 1959, 'Reflections in a Forest'; HC; CP]
(The 1957 broadside text is set in italics.)
1 59-78. *Beneath the silence of the trees 57:
5 And common any taste for words; 57-78. (words: 57 :)
12 *Their scent-and-color languages. 57-78. (scent-and-colour 59 :)
13-14 For who can quarrel without terms/For Not or Never, 57-78.
   (not or never, 57 :)
19 And cannot, therefore, counsel folk 57-78. (therefor, 57 :)
21-22 Turn all tree-signals into speech./And what comes out is a command: 57-78.
   (speech 57 : command; 57 :)
23-24 'Keep running if you want to reach/The point of knowing where you stand.'
   (Keep 57 : stand. 57 : stand'. 59 :)
25 A truth at which one should arrive 57-78. (arrive, 60R-78.)
27 And tongues, to speak it, must contrive 57:
   And tongues to speak it must contrive 59-78.
31-32 To show my hand or heart to Him/Who will, if I should lose, be Me. 57-78.
   (him 57 : me. 57 :)
33 Our race would not have gotten far, 57-78. (far 59 :)
34 Had we not learned to bluff it out 57-78. (out, 59 :)
36 Of what our motion is about; 57-78. (about. 57, 59 :)
37-38 to find/Undressing before others rude: 57-78. (rude; 57 :)

We don't need a face in the picture to know
[HC, 'Hands'; CP]
5-6 On some filial or penitent head,—Their signal is obvious—60-78.
   (head,/Their 60R; 76: obvious—, 78.)
7 Nor a tradesman's calendar to recognise 60-78. (recognize 60R-78.)
13 *And abroad where nothing is called by its real name, 60F:
   And abroad where nothing is called by its right name, 60R-78.
41 Day after wasted day;—'I am just what I am, 60-78. (day: 'I 60R-78.)
53-54 And spite of vows or rage or heartbreak,
   Blurs out:—'This hand is false!' 60-78.
55-56  *We may find a verse, a letter, as we sort;/We refuse to believe 60-78.
(We many 60F:)

Waking on the Seventh Day of Creation,
2  They cautiously sniffed the air: 59-78. (air P:)
3  *The most fastidious nostril among them admitted 59; 60-78.
   Till the nicest nostril among them admitted P:
5  *Herbivore, parasite, predator scouted, 59; 60-78.
   Herbivore, predator, parasite scouted, P:
6  Migrants flew fast and far—59-78. (far... . 59: far: P:)
7  *Not a trace of his presence: holes in the earth, 59; 60-78. (Holes 59:)
   Not a sign of his presence—holes in the earth, P:
11  Whose birth on the Sixth had made of that day 59-78. (Day 59:)
13  *Well, that fellow had never really smelled 59; 60-78.
   Extinct? Well that fellow had never smelled P:
14  Like a creature who would survive: 59-78. (survive; 59, P:)
15  *No grace, address or faculty like those 59-72:
   No grace, address of faculty like those 76, 78.
16  Born on the First Five. 59-78. (first P:)
17  *Returning, relieved, to a natural economy 59:
   Back, then, at last, to a natural economy, P:
   Back, then, at last on a natural economy, 60-78.
24/25  (no stanza break) 59; 60F: (stanza break) P; 60R-78.
28  More god-like than they thought. 60-78. (godlike 60R; 76:)

There is one devil in the lexicon
[OMR, 'Merax & Mullin'; Semi-Colon, I, 6 (1956)*; Nimbus, III, 3 (Summer 1956), 'Merax and Mullin'; HC, 'Merax & Mullin'; CP] (N stands for the Nimbus reading.)
11  And when superior devils start a war, 56-78. (war N:)
12-13  How soon the home-sick ranks in either army/Credit his cosmos, 56-78.
   (homesick 56, N; 60R: cosmos 56, N:)
16-17  There is an even nastier, more deadly,/Philological imp, 56-78.
   (deadly 56, N: imp N:)

Should the shade of Plato
[New Yorker, 7 March 1959, 'On Installing an American Kitchen in Lower Austria'; HC; AH, 'VIII. Grub First, Then Ethics (Brecht)'; SP; CP]
(This poem was reprinted with revision in AH as the eighth poem of the 'Thanksgiving for a Habitat' sequence. So it will be examined among the AH poems.)

All that which lies outside our sort of why,
[Encounter, Jan. 1957, 'Objects'; HC; CSP; CP]
1 *All that which moves outside our sort of why, 57:
   All that which lies outside our sort of why, 60–78.
10 Even at sunset, though of course we care 57–78. (though, of course, 57:)
12 *A person who is not. What then? Some soul, 57:
   One Person who is not: somewhere, a soul, 60–78.

A sentence uttered makes a world appear
[HC, ‘Words’; CSP; CP]
6 One cannot change the subject half-way through, 60–78. (halfway 60R:)
9 But should we want to gossip all the time, 60–78. (time 60R:)
16 The Knight at some lone cross-roads of his quest? 60–78. (crossroads 60R:)

So large a morning so itself to lean
[Truth, 12 Oct. 1956*; HC, ‘The Song’; CSP; CP]
(No difference between the four versions.)

Serious historians care for coins and weapons,
[London Magazine, Sept. 1955, ‘Makers of History’; OMR; HC; CSP; CP]
1 *Serious historians study coins and weapons, 55, 56:
   Serious historians care for coins and weapons, 60–78.
2 Not those re-iterations of one self-importance 55–78. (reiterations 55; 60R:)
6 Their yawning pupils, 55–78. (pupils. 55, 56:)
7 With might-be maps of might-have-been campaigns 55–78. (campaigns, 56; 66–78.)
8 Showing in color the obediences 55–78. (colour 55, 56; 66–76:)
11 *And polysyllabic reasons to a Senate 55; 60–78. (a senate 55:)
   And polysyllabic reasons to the Senate 56:
13 Simple to add how Greatness, incognito, 55–78. (Greatness incognito 55:)
16 *And simpler still the phobia, the perversion, 55–78. (the phobias, 55, 56:)
20 Composite demi-god, prodigious worker, 55–78. (demigod 55, 56; 60R:)
23–24 and a martyr/To Numerology. 55–78. (numerology. 55, 56:)
28 During a nine-day tussle with King Scorpion, 55–78. (nine day 55:)

Begot like other children, he
[HC, ‘T the Great’; CSP; CP]
8 Cried: — ‘Death is on you! T is coming!’ 60–78. (Cried: “Death 60R:)}
‘If God exists, why can’t He stop it?’ 60-78. (it?” 60R:)

*A synonym in a whole armful/Of languages for what is harmful. 60-78.

(Some regions, so historians say./Have not recovered to this day.) 60:
(60R:)

(Some regions, travellers avow,/Have not recovered even now.) 66-78.

To play the bogey-man that comes/To naughty boys 60-78. (bogeyman 60R:)

Eg, as a crossword anagram: 60-78. (E.g., 60R-78.)

11 Down — A NUBILE TRAM 60-78. (A NUBILE TRAM. 60R-78.)

No, Virgil, no:

[Mid-Century, Dec. 1959, ‘Secondary Epic’; HC; CSP; CP]

Not even to serve your political turn; 59-78. (turn: 59:)
All the birthdays needed to pre-ordain 59-78. (preordain 60R:)

What cause should he show why he didn’t foresee 59, 60F; 66-78.

Why a curtain of darkness should finally drop 59-78. (the curtain 59:)

Ataraxes, Euphrates and similar rivers 59:

Inspecting gifts and troops for ever? 59:

And Caesar be left where prophecy ends, 59-78. (ends 59:)

Inspecting troops and gifts for ever? 60-78.

Wouldn’t Aeneas have asked: — ‘What next? 59-78. (asked: “What 60R:)

After this triumph, what portends?’ 59-78. (triumph 59:)

To your Eighth Book, an interpolation, 59-78. (interpolation 59:)

Scrawled at the side of a tattered text 59:

Scrawled at the side of a tattered text 60-78.

Of some blond princeling whom loot had inclined 59-78. (Princeling 59:)

Now Mainz appears and starry New Year’s Eve 59-78. (Eve, 59:)

As two-horned Rhine throws off the Latin yoke 59-78. (Yoke 59:)

Demolished Carthage or a plundered Greece: 59-78. (Greece; 59:)

*And now Juturna leaves the river-bed 59-78. (Juturna 59:)

*No, Vergil, no: 59: / No, Virgil, no: 60-78.

Your Anchises isn’t convincing at all: 59-78. (all; 60R:)

*And its trying to teach a dutiful son 59:

And is trying to teach a dutiful son 60-78.

(Surely, no prophet could afford to miss, 59-78. (miss 60R:)

So clear a proof of Providence as this.) 59-78. (this) 59; 60R:)

*Whom Arian Odovacer will depose. 59-78. (Ordovacer 59:)

5...
No use invoking Apollo in a case like theirs;

[Poetry London-New York, March-April 1956, 'The Epigoni'; Nimbus, III, 3 (Summer 1956); OMRI; HC; CSP; CP]

(P and N stand for the Poetry and the Nimbus readings respectively.)

2 *The pleasure-loving gods had died in their big chairs P:
    The pleasure-loving gods had died in their chairs N-78. (chairs, N:)

3 *And would not get up again, not one of them, ever, P-56:
    And would not get up again, one of them, ever, 60-78.

4 *Though guttural tribes had crossed the Great River, P-78. (gutteral N:)

5 *Roasting their dead and with no word for the yew: P:
    Roasting their dead and with no name for the yew; N-78. (yew: N, 56:)

7 *Return with long swords from island paradises; P:
    Return with long swords from pelagic paradises N-78. (paradises; N, 56:)

8–9 *They would be left to their own devices/(Supposing they had some): P-56:
    (some); 56:)
    (They would be left to their own devices/(Supposing they had some); 60–78.

10 One didn’t foresee the probable ending P-78. (ending, P:)

11 As dog-food, or landless, submerged, a slave: P-78.
    (dog-food or, P: dog-food or N, 56:)

15 Or, dramatising their doom, held forth P-78. (dramatizing N; 60R:)

16 In sonorous clap-trap about death; P-78. (Death; P; 56: death; N:)

17 *But, to their honor, a reader will only perceive P-56: (honor, N:)
    To their credit, a reader will only perceive 60–78.

20 Epanaleptics, rhopalics, anacyclic acrostics: P-78. (acrostics; N:)

21 *To their lasting honour, the stuff they wrote P-78.
    (honor P; 56; 60R: honor, 76, 78.)

23 Called shallow by a mechanised generation to whom P-78. (mechanized N; 60R:)

The watch upon my wrist

[HC, 'Parable'; CP, p.539, ‘Parable’ (the second of the ‘Shorts I’)]

(No change between the three versions.)

Looking up at the stars, I know quite well


2 That, for all they care, I can go to hell, 58-78. (hell; 58:)

3 But on earth indifference is the least 58–78. (But. on earth, 58:)

Expecting your arrival tomorrow, I find myself thinking I love You: then comes the thought—
Although you be, as I am, one of those
[HC, epigraph to Part II (in italics) ; CP, p.17, epigraph to the volume (in italics)]
2–3 *Who feel a Christian ought to write in Prose/For Poetry is Magic—60–78.
   (Prose, 60R: prose 76, 78. poetry 76, 78. magic : 76, 78.)

Steatopygous, sow-dugged
[Encounter, May 1960, ‘Dame Kind’; HC; CP] (E stands for the Encounter reading.)
3–4 *To Whom the first innocent blood/was formally shed E:
   To Whom—Whom else?—the first innocent blood/was formerly shed 60F:
   To Whom—Whom else?—the first innocent blood/was formally shed 60R–78.
11–12 *Now who put us, we should like to know,/in Her menage? E–78.
   (in Her menage? 60F:)
15–16 *Since the sceptical academies got wind/of the Chi-Rho; E–78.
   (skeptical 60R, 76: the Chi-Ro; E: the Chi-Rho; 60R:)
17 St. Cuckoo’s wooden church for Her E–78. (St Cuckoo’s E:)
21 So pocket your fifty sonnets, Bud; E–78. (bud; E:)
37–38 You can’t tell us your hypochondriac/Blue-Stocking from Provence E–78.
   (us E: blue-stocking E:)
39 Who makes the clock-work arcadies go round E–78. (clockwork E; 60R–78.)
47–48 *Ask the Kind Lady that fitted you out/to fix you up. E:
   Ask the Kind Lady who fitted you out/to fix you up. 60–78.
49 Supposing even (through misdirections E–78. ( Supposing, E:)
55 As the clear rock-basin that stultified E–78. (rock basin 60R–78.)
57 Where tongues stammer on a First Name, E–78. (name, 60R–78.)
61 Even there, as your blushes invoke its Guardian E–78. (guardian E:)
62–63 (whose true invokeable/Name is singular for each true heart E–78.
   (invokable E: invocable 60R–78.)
65–67 *so/it deserve a music/More solemn than the he-hawing E–78.
   (so/it deserves 60R–78.)
77 *Of false endearments, crooked questions, E:
   Of lying endearments, crooked questions, 60–78.
81–82 How much half-witted horse-play and sheer/bloody misrule E–78.
   (horseplay 60R–78. misrule, E:)

Woken, I lay in the arms of my own warmth and listened
[New Yorker, 9 March 1957, ‘First Things First’; HC; CSP; SP; CP]
3 Till my ear, as it can when half-asleep or half-sober, 57–78.
   (half asleep or half sober, 57 :)
6 Into a love-speech indicative of a Proper Name. 57–78.
   (a love speech 57 : a proper name. 57 :)
9 Kenning you a god-child of the Moon and the West Wind 57–78.
   (godchild 57 ; 60R: Wind, 57 :)

17-18 *your presence exactly/SO once, so valuable, so very new. 57:
   your presence exactly/SO once, so valuable, so very now. 60F/R:
   your presence exactly/SO once, so valuable, so here, so now. 68, 74:
   your presence exactly/SO once, so valuable, so there, so now. 76, 78.
22 Is a sand-buried site all cultured Texans do, 57–78. (“do,” 57 :)
24 And gentle hearts are extinct like Hegelian Bishops. 57–78. (bishops. 57 :)
27 But quietly drew my attention to what had been done 57–78. (done — 57 :)
28 —So many cubic metres the more in my cistern/Against a leonine summer —,
   (So many 57 : summer — 57 ; 60R:) 57–78.

This graveyard with its umbrella pines


2 *Is lower in status than the vines, 57:
   Is inferior in status to the vines 59–78. (vines, 59 :)
3 *And, though new guests keep crowding in, 57; 60–78. (And 57 : in 57 :)
   And though new dead keep crowding in 59:
4 Must stay the size it’s always been. 57–78. (been, 60F:)
5 *Where men are many, acres few, 57; 60–78.
   Where lives are many, acres few, 59:
11-12 *To be washed, then, folded, packed in a small/Niche 57, 59: (washed then, 59 :)
   To be washed, folded, packed in a small/Niche 60–78.
13 *The other day I chanced to stop 57:
   The other morning I chanced to stop 59:
   Curiosity made me stop 60–78.
15-16 *Why should bards take it amiss/That Alexanders come to this? 57:
   Why should bards so take it amiss/That kings and talkers come to this? 59:
   Bards have taken it too amiss/That Alexanders come to this. 60–78.
17–20 (the 59 version lacks one stanza.)
18 (And to tell the truth we do not know) 57:
   (And, to tell the truth, we do not know), 60–78.
19–20 *These solid structures we leave behind/Do no discredit to our kind. 57:
   The solid structures they leave behind/Are no discredit to our kind. 60–78.
23 Of those fish-like hungers, mammalian heats, 57–78. (fishlike 60R:  heats 57, 59 :)

This revision process is an example of W.H. Auden's approach to revising his work, where he often made multiple changes to refine the language and meaning of his poems.
32 *A mount that has no need of friends. 57, 59:
A mount which has no need of friends. 60–78.

Hail, future friend, whose present I
[OMR, ‘C. 500 A.D.’; HC, ‘Bathtub Thoughts/(c. 500 — c. 1950)’; CSP; CP]
1 56–78. (friend 56:)
2 *With confidence now prophesy, 56: / With gratitude now prophesy, 60–78.
3–4 Kind first to whom it shall occur/My past existence to infer. 56–78.
   (Kind First 56: infer; 56:
6 Two nameless ordinal extremes: 56–78. (extremes; 56:)
9–10 *such/As time nor love nor gods can touch. 56:
   such/As gods nor love nor death can touch. 60–78.
10/11 (no stanza break) 56: (stanza break) 60–78.
11–12 *So thought (I think) the last Romano-Briton,/Taking the last hot bath. 56:
   So thought, I thought, the last Romano-Briton/To take his last hot bath. 60–78.

Across the Great Schism, through our whole landscape,
[Perspectives USA, 14 (Winter 1956). ‘The Old Man’s Road’; OMR; Listen, Summer–
Autumn 1957; HC; CSP; CP] (P stands for the Perspectives USA reading.)
5–6 When a light subsoil, a simple ore/Were still in vogue: 56–78. (ore, P–57:)
7 *By stiles, hedge-gaps it goes, 56, 57:
   By stiles, gates, hedge-gaps it goes P; 60–78. (goes, P:)
8 *Over ploughland, woodland, cow meadows, P–78. (plowland, 60R:)
10 No heretic to-day would be caught dead with, P–78. (today P–57; 60R; 78:)
11 Near hill-top rings that were so safe then, P–78. (hilltop P–57; 60R:)
12 Now stormed easily by small children P–78. (children, P–57: children. 60F:)
14 Hamlets take stretches for Lovers’ Lanes), P–78.
   (Lovers Lanes) P–57: Lovers’ Lanes) 60F:)
16 Now without gutters, a Thieves’ Alley, P–78. (Thieves Alley, P–57:)
17 Now with green lamp-posts and white curb, P–78. (lampposts P–57; 60R:)
19 Giving wide berth to an old Cathedral, P–78. (cathedral, P, 56: cathedral 57:)
21 Unlookable for, by logic, by guess: P–78. (guess, P–57:)
22 Yet some strike it, and are struck fearless. P–78. (it and P–57:)
23 *No life can know, P–57: / No life can know it, 60–78.
23–24 *but no life/That sticks to its course can be made captive, P–57:
   but no life/That sticks to this course can be made captive, 60–78.
25 *And who wander with it are not stopped at P–78. (who wanders P; 57:)
26 *Borders by guards of a Theocrat, P–57:
   Borders by guards of some Theocrat, 60–78.
29 *(And no farther where it might by chance): P–57:
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(And no further where it might by chance): 60–78.
37 The Old Man leaves his Road to those P-76. (his road P-57:)

I choose the road from here to there
[HC, 'Walks'; CP]
10 *A walker's walk for walking sake: 60–78. (walking's sake: 60F:)
15–16 *had I gone/A kilometer further on? 60–78. (kilometre 60F:)
18 *Or cumulus clouds invite a stroll, 60–78. (cumulous 60F:)
26 *By turning behavior into deed, 60–78. (behaviour 60F:)
37 *A lane no traveler would use, 60–78. (traveller 60F:)

In that ago when being was believing,
[Observer, 29 March 1959, 'In That Ago'; HC, 'The History of Truth'; CSP; CP]
(The Observer text is set in italics.)
3 More first, more always, than a bat-winged lion, 59–78. (always 59:)
5 The least like mortals, doubted by their deaths. 59–78. (mortals 59:)
8–9 *Without believing earthenware and legend,
   Archway and song, were truthful or untruthful: 59–78.
   (8 earthenware 60F; 66: 9 song 59:)
11 This while when, practical like paper-dishes, 59–78. (paper dishes, 60R:)
14 *An untruth anyone can give the lie to, 59:
   Some untruth anyone can give the lie to, 60–78.

All fables of adventure stress
[OMR, 'The History of Science'; New Statesman and Nation, 9 June 1956; HC; CSP; CP] (N stands for the New Statesman and Nation reading below.)
2 The need for courtesy and kindness: 56–78. (kindness; 56, N:)
3–4 *none can win/The golden-haired Princess. 56:
   none can win/The flaxen-haired Princess. N; 60–78.
5 They look the ones in need of aid, 56–78. (aid N:)
7 Third Brother beds the woken Queen, 56–78. (Queen 56, N:)
9–10 *to crones/Or dogs that begged to share their rations 56, N:
   to crones/And dogs who begged to share their rations, 60–78.
15 All written reference to a brother 56–78. (a Brother 56:)
17 Soft-spoken as New Moon this Fourth, 56–78. (as new moon 56, N:)
18 A Sun of gifts to all he met with, 56–78. (A sun 56, N:)
19 *Yet, when advised Go South awhile 56:
   But when advised Go south a while, N:
   But when advised 'Go South a while!', 60–78. ("Go 60R: while!" 60R: while! 76, 78.)
20 Smiled Thank you, and turned North, 56:
Smiled *Thank-you* and turned north, *N*:

Smiled *'Thank You!'* and turned North, *60-78*. ("Thank You!" *60R:*)

23-24 but blundered/*On a wonderful instead, 56-78*. (Instead, *56:*)

26 *A treasure not of gold but silver: 56-78*. (A treasure *56: silver; 56, N:*)

30 *That one may err his way to riches, 56, *N:*

That one can err his way to riches, *60-78*.

A Young Person came out of the mists

[HC, ‘History of the Boudoir’; CSP, p. 270, one of the ‘Shorts’; CP, p. 436]

1 *60-78*. (mists, *66-78*.)

Relax, Maestro, put your baton down:


(Note under the title)

*To be spoken by the singer taking the role of Sarastro upon the conclusion of his aria:*

‘*In diesen heilgen Hallen*’ *L:*

(to be spoken by the singer taking the role of Sarastro on the conclusion of his aria: In diesen heilgen Hallen) *H:*

[To be spoken by the singer taking the role of SARASTRO.] *56:*

(Lines composed in commemoration of the Mozart Bicentenary. To be spoken by the singer playing the role of Sarastro.) *60:*

(Lines composed in commemoration of the Mozart Bicentenary, 1956./To be spoken by the singer playing the role of Sarastro.) *66-78*.

(The Harper’s Bazaar and The Magic Flute texts are set in italics, with proper names in roman; while the other texts are set in roman, with proper names in italics. And the CP text has proper names in a large capital followed by small capitals. The HB and the MF texts are treated here, for convenience sake, as if they were set like all the other versions, by converting italic and roman types into each other.)

3 *If you the trials of the Prince prorogue L–78*. (pro-rogue *H:*)

4 *To let Sarastro speak of the Metologue, L:*

To let Sarastro speak the Metologue, *L, 56:*

To let Sarastro speak this Metologue, *60-78*.

5-6 A form acceptable to us, although/Unclassed *L–78*. (us *L:*)

7 *No modern audience finds it incorrect, L–78*. (incorrect *L:*)

8 *For interruption is what we expect L–78*. (expect, *56:*)

9 *Since that new god, the Paid Announcer, rose, L–78*. (rose *L–56:*)
10 Who with his quasi-Ossianic prose L-78. (quasi-ossianic L, H:)
11 Cuts in upon the lovers, halts the band, L-78. (band H, 56:)
12 To name a sponsor or to praise a brand. L-78. (brand : L:)
14 *Which you could wear or cook with or imbibe; L:
   That you could wear or cook with or imbibe; H-78.
15 You cannot hoard or waste a work of art: L-78. (art; L:)
16 I come to praise — but not to sell — Mozart, L:  
   I come to praise but not to sell Mozart, H-78.
19 When kings were many and machines were few. L-78. (few L, H; 66–78.)
21 (It makes a servantless New Yorker sore L-78. (New-Yorker L: New-Yorker H:)
27 Recall what, when the Archduke Francis reigned, L-78. (Arch-Duke L, H:)
28 *Was heard by ears whose treasure-chest contained L:
   Was heard by ears whose treasure-hoard contained H-78.
29 A Flute already but as yet no Ring; L-78. (Ring : L: Ring : H; 60R:)
33 A Viennese Italian; that is changed L-78. (Italian : H:)
34 Since music critics learned to feel ‘estranged’; L-78.  
   (music-critics L, H: estranged : L:)
43 *Are heard in reverent silence, score on knees, L:  
   Are heard in solemn silence, score on knees, H-78.
44 Like quartets by the deafest of the B’s. L-78. (B’s. H: B’s. 76, 78.)
46 In concert halls two hundred years from now, L-78. (concert-halls L:)
47 When the mozartian sound-waves move the air, L-78. (Mozartian 60R:)
48–49 The cognoscenti will be moved, than dare/Predict L-78. (moved L, H:)
52–53 the form of Suite/For Piano in a Post-Atomic Age, L-78. 
   (of Suite/For Piano L; of suite/For piano H:)
57 Even Macaulay’s schoolboy knows to-day L-78. (Macaulay’s H: today L; 60R:)
61 ’Twixt Modern Mom and Bronze-Age Matriarch. L-78. (‘Twixt 60F:)
63 ‘Ah, where,’ sighs Mr. Mitty, ‘where indeed?, L-78. 
   (“Ah, 60R: where’, L; where,” 60R; where 76: “Where indeed?” 60R:)
66–67 *utter detestation/Of Roman views on Female Education. L:  
   utter detestation/For Roman views of Female Education. H-78. (Education H:)
68 In Nineteen-Fifty-Six we find the Queen L-78. (Nineteen Fifty-Six 60R:)
69 A highly-paid and most efficient Dean L-78. (highly paid L:)
73 At Bryn Mawr, Vassar, Bennington or Smith; L-78. (Brynawor, L, H:)
   (The L text has a note to this line on the bottom margin:  
   *The British reader should substitute the names of Newnham, Somerville, etc.)
75 To let Tamino take his Ph.D., L-78. (Ph.D. 60F: Ph.D, 60R:)
79 Listens to Mozart operas on the air, L-78. (Mozart L:)
80 *Though Papageno, one is sad to feel, L-60:  
   Though Papageno, we are sad to feel, 66–78.
81 Prefers the juke-box to the glockenspiel, \(L-78\).
  (Juke-box \(L\); juke box \(60R\): Glockenspiel, \(L\:))

82 And how is (what was easy in the past) \(L\):
  And how is—what was easy in the past—\(H-78\).

86 *A work that lives two hundred years is tough, \(L-56\):
  A work that lasts two hundred years is tough, \(60-78\).

88 What greatness made, small vanities abuse. \(L-78\). (made \(78:\))

92 Conductor \(X\), that over-rated bore \(L-78\). (overrated \(L\); \(56\); \(60R\): bore, \(L-56\:))

94 Director \(Y\) who with ingenious wit \(L-78\). (\(Y\), who \(L\:))

95 *Places the wretched singers in the Pit \(L-56\): (pit \(H\), \(56\:))
  Places his wretched singers in the pit \(60-78\).

96 While dancers mime their roles, \(Z\) the Designer \(L-78\). (\(Z\), the Designer, \(L\:))

98 *The girls in shorts, the men in yachting caps; \(L-78\).
  (the man \(56\): yachting-caps, \(L\), \(H\): yachting caps, \(56\:))

99 Yet Genius triumphs over all mishaps, \(L-78\). (genius \(H\), \(56\:))

101 Translation into foreign Operese \(L-78\). (Operese. \(L-56\:))

103 Because our tenors have to hide their \(anguish\); \(L-78\).
  (\(anguish\) \(L\), \(H\): \(anguish\).) \(56\:)

105 Genius surpasses all things, even Chic. \(L-78\). (chic. \(H\), \(56\:))

106 *We who know little (which is just as well) \(L\):
  We who know little—which is just as well—\(H\), \(56\:)
  We who know nothing—which is just as well—\(60-78\).

107 About the future can at least foretell, \(L\):
  About the future, can, at least, foretell, \(H-78\). (future \(H\), \(56\:))

109 *Practise group-marriage or are fed through tubes, \(L-78\). (Practice \(H\), \(56\); \(60R\:))

110 That crowds two centuries from now will press \(L\); \(60-78\).
  That crowds, two centuries from now, will press, \(H\), \(56\): (press \(56\:))

111 (Absurd their hair, ridiculous their dress) \(L-78\). (dress), \(56\:)

112 And pay in currencies however weird \(L-56\):
  And pay in currencies, however weird, \(60-78\).

115 The F in alt of the \textit{Nocturnal Queen}, \(L-78\). (the nocturnal \textit{Queen}, \(L-56\:))

121 Indulged in toilet humor with his cousin \(L-78\).
  (toilet-humour \(L\): toiler humor \(60F\): toiler humour \(66\): cousin, \(L-56\): \(66-78\:))

123 The like of whom we shall not see again: \(L-78\). (again; \(H\), \(56\): again. \(L\:))

124 How comely, also, to forgive; we should, \(L-78\). (forgive: \(L-56\:))

126 Remember kindly \textit{Salieri}'s shade, \(L-78\). (\textit{Salieri}'s \(H\), \(56\:))

129 We have \textit{Stravinsky}, bless him, with us yet. \(L-56\):
  We have \textit{Stravinsky}—bless him!—with us yet \(60-78\).

130 \textit{Basta}! Maestro, make your minions play! \(L-78\).
  (\textit{Basta}! \(L\), \(H\); \(60R\): \textit{Basta}! \(56\); \(76\), \(78\:))
W. H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (VI)

In all hearts, as in our finale, may L-78. (Finale, L:)
Reason & Love be crowned, assume their rightful sway. L-78.
(Reason and Love L-56:)

As the poets have mournfully sung,
[HC, 'The Aesthetic Point of View'; CSP, p. 270, one of the 'Shorts'; CP, p. 437]
The rolling-in-money, 60: / The rolling in money, 66-78.
The screamingly-funny, 60: / The screamingly funny, 66-78.

The tribes of Limbo, travellers report,
[Atlantic, Nov. 1957, 'Limbo Culture'; HC; CSP; CP]
*But none you could translate by Yes or No, 57; 60F; 66-78. (Yes or No. 57:)
Nor do its pronouns distinguish between Persons. 57-78. (persons. 57:)
In tales related by the tribes of Limbo, 57-78. (Limbo 57:)
*But miss their targets always by a hairsbreadth, 57:
But miss their rival always by a hair's-breadth, 60-78.
*Crone and Young Simon pass a crucial point, 57:
Old Crone and Stripling pass a crucial point, 60-78.
*She early by a second and he late, 57:
She seconds early and He seconds late, 60-78.
*A magic purse forgets the legal tender. 57:
A magic purse mistakes the legal tender: 60-78.
*Why this concern, so marked in Limbo culture,/For inexactness? 57:
Why this concern, so marked in Limbo culture,/This love for inexactness? 60-78.
*Are we to conclude/"To live in Limbo" means "to love myself," 57:
Could it be/A Limbo tribesman only loves himself? 60-78.
Which, as we know, cannot be done exactly? 57:
For that, we know, cannot be done exactly. 60-78.

Though mild clear weather
[Time and Tide, 1 Dec. 1956, 'There Will Be No Peace'; HC; CSP; CP]
*And its colors come back, the storm has changed you: 56-78. (colours 56; 66, 76:)
You must live with your knowledge: 56-78. (knowledge. 66-78.)
11 Beings of unknown number and gender: 56-78. (gender, 56 :) 
14 Nothing? Nothing is not an answer: 56-78. (answer, 56 :) 
16 That you did, you did do something; 56-78. (something, 56 :) 
17 You will find yourself wishing you could make them laugh: 56-78. 
   (laugh, 56 ; 66-78. laugh; 60R:) 
19 There will be no peace. 56-78. (peace : 56 :) 
22 Clear in your conscience on this: 56-78. (this; 56 :) 
23 Their cause, if they had one, is nothing to them now; 56-78. (now. 56 :) 

He told us we were free to choose  
[Listener, 25 Dec. 1958, ‘Friday’s Child’; HC; SP; CP] 
(epigraph)  
(In memory of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyred at Flossenb... 58-78. 
((in roman) 58: In 60F: April 9, 58: April 9th, 1945 60F :) 
2 But, children as we were, we thought — 58-78. (thought 58 :) 
3-4 ‘Paternal Love will only use/Force 58-78. (Paternal 58; “Paternal 60R: 
5 On those too bumptious to repent.’ — 58-78. 
   (repent: 58: repent” — 60R: repent’ — 76, 78.) 
17-18 if we felt/Awe at this Universal Man; 58-78. (Man 58; 76, 78.) 
19 (When kings were local, people knelt) 58-78. ( knelt): 58: knelt); 76, 78.) 
21-23 observing Mind/We meet when we observe at all/Is not alarming or unkind
   (at all, 58 :) 
24 But utterly banal. 58-78. (banal: 58 :) 
26 Make wish and counterwish come true, 58-78. (counter-wish 58 :) 
37-38 Now, did He really break the seal/And rise again? We dare not say; 58-78. 
   (say: 58 :) 
46-47 Just what Appearances He saves/By suffering 58-78. (appearances 58 :) 

Out of a gothic North, the pallid children  
[Good-Bye to the Mezzogiorno/(For Carlo Izzo), a pamphlet, 1958; Encounter, Nov. 1958, ‘Goodbye to the Mezzogiorno’; HC, ‘Good-bye to the Mezzogiorno/(For Carlo Izzo’; CSP; CP] (The pamphlet text is set in italics, with occasional foreign words and names in roman. But here the italic letters are treated as roman, and roman letters as italics. E stands for the Encounter reading.) 
2-3 *Of a potato, beer-or-whiskey/Guilt culture, 58-78. (beer-or-whisky 66-78.) 
6-7 *These feminine townships where men/Are males 58: 
   To these feminine townships where men/Are males, E-78. (males E:) 
9-10 In Protestant rectories upon drizzling/Sunday afternoons — 58-78. 
   (protestant 58, E: afternoons, 58, E:) 
10-11 *no more as unbathed/Barbarians out for gold, 58, E:
no more as unwashed/Barbarians out for gold, 60–78.
11–13 nor as profiteers/Hot for Old Masters, but for plunder//Nevertheless — 58–78.
(profiteers, 60R: plunder, 58, E: Nevertheless — 58, E:)
13–14 some believing amore/Is better down South and much cheaper 58–78.
(south 58, E:)
17–19 and others, like me,/In middle-age hoping to twig 58–78. (middle-age, 58, E:)
24–25 or perhaps in this heat//It is nonsense: 58–78. (perhaps, 58:)
25–26 the Myth of an Open Road/Which runs past the orchard gate 58–78.
(myth 58, E: Road, 58, E:)
26–27 *and beckons/Three brothers in turn to step out over the hills 58, E: and beckons/Three brothers in turn to set out over the hills 60–78.
33–34 *a pair of friends/Poking fun in a private language, E: a pair of friends/Making fun in a private lingo, 60–78.
36–37 even as it perplexes//Our ears when cats are called Cat  E–78. (called cat E:)
38–39 Their dining/Puts us to shame : E–78. (shame ; E:)
39–40 *we can only envy a people/So frugal by nature E–78. (envy people 60R:)
40–41 it costs them//No effort not to guzzle and swill. Yet E–78. (swill: yet E:)
43–44 The Greeks used to call the Sun/He-who-smites-from-afar, and from here, E–78.
(He-who-smites-from-afar and E:)
46–47 I can see what they meant: his unwinking/Outrageous eye laughs E–78.
(meant: His E:)
47–49 to scorn any notion/Of change or escape, and a silent//Ex-volcano, E–78.
(escape E:)
53–54 noise/As a counter-magic, E–78. (countermagic, 60R:)
54–55 a way of saying/Boo to the Three Sisters: E–78. (Sisters ; 60R:)
55–56 ‘Mortal we may be,/But we are still here!’ — might cause them to hanker E–78.
(“Mortal 60R: here!” might 60R:)
59–60 We are rather shocked,/But we need shocking : E–78. (shocked E:)
61–62 That surfaces need not be superficial/Nor gestures vulgar, E–78. (superficial, E:)
65–66 Goethe,/Tapping homeric hexameters E–78. (Goethe E:)
67 On the shoulder-blade of a Roman girl, is E–78. (shoulder blade 60R:)
68–69 the figure//Of all our stamp: no doubt he treated her well, E–78.
(stamp. No doubt E:)
76–78 *If we try//To “go southern”, we spoil in no time, we go/Flabby, E:
If we try//To ‘go southern’, we spoil in no time, we grow/Flabby, 60–78.
(“go southern,” 60R:)
83–85 *and entitles us, I think/To one little scream at A piacere, //Not two, E–78.
(at “Per piacere!” E: at A piacere!, 60R:)
85–86 but I go grateful (even/To a certain Monte) and invoking E–78. (Monte E:)
87–88 *My sacred meridian names, call Leopardi,/Pirandello, Verga, Bellini, E ;
My sacred meridian names, Pirandello/Croce, Vico, Verga, Bellini, 60:
My sacred meridian names, Vico, Verga/Pirandello, Bernini, Bellini, 66-78.

89-90 *To bless this region, its vintages and those/Who call it home: E:
To bless this region, its vendages, and those/Who call it home: 60-78.
(its vendanges, 66:)

Henry Adams/Was mortally afraid of Madams:
[New Yorker, 4 April 1953, ‘People’ (nine four-line clerihews); HC, ‘Academic Graffiti’
(34 untitled four- or five-line clerihews); Academic Graffiti (1971); CP]
(These pieces will be examined as AG poems.)

Let both our Common Rooms combine to cheer
[HC, ‘Lines addressed to Dr. Claude Jenkins, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, on the
occasion of his Eightieth Birthday. (May 26th, 1957)’; CSP, ‘Three Occasional Poems,
III’; CP]
(This poem forms part of the ‘Addendum’ to HC together with the ‘Academic Graffiti’
poems. In the HC and CSP texts each of the proper names is set in italics, while in
CP in a large capital followed by small capitals.)

7-8 Long may you see a congregation sit,/Enraptured by your piety and wit, 60-78.
(sit 66-78.)

15-16 A warmer Canonry await you, where
Nor dry-rot shall corrupt, nor moisture rust, 60-78.
(15 you 66-78. 16 dry rot 60R:)

21 More pungent than our mere sub-lunar stuff, 60-78. (sublunar 60R:)

23-24 Baroquish Cherubim cry:— ‘Glory, Laud,/Eternal Honor to our Dr. Claude!’
(cry: “Glory 60R: Honour 66, 76: Dr. Claude!” 60R:) 60-78.
W.H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (VII):
ABOUT THE HOUSE (1965/1966)

Y. S. YAMADA*
(Received June 2, 1981)

INTRODUCTORY NOTES
This article is an attempt to list the variant readings—substantives and accidentals—that could be discovered between the text of each poem originally collected in W. H. Auden's About the House (Random House, 1965) and all the available texts preceding and succeeding it.

The first line of each poem given at the head of the lists is from the Random House fifth impression text. In the square brackets, the titles of periodicals that could not be seen are starred; the title of a version of a poem is not given if it is identical with that of the preceding version; the abbreviations used in the brackets are as follows:

HC = Homage to Clio (Faber & Faber, 1960; Random House, revised third impression, 1967)
AH = About the House (Random House, July 1965; fifth impression, Dec. 1965)
About the House (Faber & Faber, Jan. 1966; second impression, Feb. 1966)
SP = Selected Poems (Faber & Faber, 1968; reset edition, 1972)
CP = Collected Poems (Random House/Faber & Faber, 1976; corrected printing, 1978)

The numerals in italics given after each variant reading designate a version by its publication date: e.g., 65, 66, 76 and 78 show, respectively, the reading of the AH (Random House fifth impression), AH (Faber & Faber second impression), CP (first printing) and CP (Random House corrected printing) texts.

Where variance is minor, a line or lines are quoted from the Random House edition text, and the variant is noted in the parentheses after or under the quoted line/lines. Double quotation marks are used in both the Random House and the Faber & Faber texts of About the House and also in most printings which appeared in the periodicals, while in the CP single quotes are used throughout. But this difference is not specifically noted except where the other variant occurs in

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the same line/lines.

I would like to express my deepest thanks to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University, for his permission to quote freely from Auden's work, and especially for his kindness in providing me with precious xeroxed copies of Auden's poems printed in the pamphlets.

July 1, 1981 Y.S.Y.
A moon profaned by
[AH 1965/1966, 'For Edmund and Elena Wilson' (dedicatory poem, in italics); CP, p. 541, the last of the 'Shorts']
(No variance between the three versions.)

THANKSGIVING FOR A HABITAT

From gallery-grave and the hunt of a wren-king
(No variant readings between the five texts of the main body of the poem. The 'Postscript' is omitted in the SP 1968/1972 and SP 1979 texts.)

Nobody I know would like to be buried
(New Yorker, 17 August 1963, 'Thanksgiving for a Habitat (for Geoffrey Gorer); AH 1965/1966, 'II/Thanksgiving for a Habitat/(for Geoffrey Gorer)'; SP 1972; CP; SP 1979]
2-4 with a silver cocktail shaker, /a transistor radio and a strangled/daily help,
   (radio, 63:)
   63-79.
6-7 Only a press lord/could have built San Simeon: 63-79. (Simeon; 63:)
11-12 (In adulterine castles/our half-strong might hang their jackets 63-79.
   (castles, 63:)
13 while mending their lethal bicycle chains: 63-79. (chains— 63:)
17-18 *to look at someone's idea of the body/which should have been his, 63:
   to look at someone's idea of the body/that should have been his, 65-79.
18-19 as the flesh/Mum formulated shouldn't: 63-79. (shouldn't. 63:)
19-20 that whatever/he does or feels in the mood for, 63-79. (That 63: for— 63:)
21 stocktaking, horseplay, worship, making love, 63-79. (love— 63:)
22-23 he stays the same shape, disgraces/a Royal I. 63-79.
   (shape 63: a royal I. 63:)
23-24 To be overadmired is not/good enough: 63-79. (enough; 63:)
39-41 few of whom/I shall ever meet, and with fewer//converse. 63-79.
   (meet and 63:)
41-42 Linnaeus recoiled from the Amphibia/as a naked gruesome rabble, 63-79.
   (rabble; 63:)
43 Arachnids give me the shudders, 63-79. (arachnids 63:)
43-45 but fools/who deface their emblem of guilt//are germane to Hitler: 63-79.
   (Hitler— 63:)
46-48 *I should like/to be to my water brethren a spell/of fine weather; 63:
I should like/to be to my water-brethren as a spell/of fine weather: 65-79.

Many are stupid,/and some, maybe, are heartless, 63-79.

I am glad/the blackbird, for instance, cannot//tell if I'm talking English,

German, or/just typewriting, 63:

(I am glad/the blackbird, for instance, cannot//tell if I'm talking English,

German or/just typewriting: 65-79.

that what he utters/I can enjoy as alien rigmarole. 63:

that what he utters/I may enjoy as an alien rigmarole.) 65-79.

as the muscle-bound firs are certainly-going to outlast me: 63-79.

I am glad/the blackbird, for instance, cannot//tell if I'm talking English,

German or/just typewriting: 63:

that what he utters/I can enjoy as alien rigmarole. 65-79.

I am glad/the blackbird, for instance, cannot//tell if I'm talking English,

German or/just typewriting: 63:

that what he utters/I may enjoy as an alien rigmarole.) 65-79.

shall, anyhow, stop eating, return my smidge/of nitrogen to the World

Fund 63:

shall, anyhow, stop eating, surrender my smidge/of nitrogen to the World

Fund 65-79.

unless at the nod/of some jittery commander//I be translated 63-79.

I shall of course/assume the submissive posture: 63-79. (posture, 63:)

Territory, status,//and love, sing all the birds, are what matter: 63-79.

(matter. 63:)

what I dared not hope or fight for/is, in my fifties, mine, a toft-and-croft

(What 63: a toft and croft 63:) 63-79.

For this and for all enclosures like it the archetype

[Listener, 1 Oct. 1964, 'The cave of making/(In memoriam Louis MacNeice)';


from the Olivetti portable,/the dictionaries (the very/best money can buy),

(the Olivetti Portable, 64:)

and to sharpen hearing: reached by an/outside staircase, 64-79.

(hearing. Reached 64:)

*domestic/noises and odors, the vast background of natural/life are shut off.

(odours, 66: life, 64: off: 64:)

four miles to our east, at a wood palisade, the Bavaria/of Pepin stopped,

four miles to our east, at a wood palisade, Carolingian/Bavaria stopped,

beyond it/unknowable Avars). 64:

beyond it/unknowable nomads). 65-79.

but fate had already/made us neighbors. 64-79. (neighbours. 66:)

27-28
32-33 Though neither of our dads, like Horace's, wiped his nose on his forearm, (our Dads, 64: like Horace's 65:) 64-79.
34-35 and our ancestors probably/were among those plentiful subjects 64-79. (ancestors, probably, 64:)
44-45 and any faith if we had it, in immanent/virtue died. 64-79. (faith, 64; 76-79.)
45-46 *More than ever/life-out-there is goodly, miraculous, lovable, 64-79. (ever, 64: loveable, 64:)
59-61 what else is there/to do but talk to the voices/of conscience they have become? 64-79. (become. 64:)
64-65 especially here, where titles/from Poems to The Burning Perch offer proof positive 64-79. (here where 64:)
72-73 *obliged at drunken feasts to improvise a eulogy/of some beefy illiterate burner, 64-79. (an eulogy 64:)
78-79 to serve this unpopular art which cannot be turned into/background noise for study 64-79. (background-noise 64:)
80 or hung as a status trophy by rising executives, 64-79. (a status-trophy 64:)
84-85 (It's heartless to forget about/the underdeveloped countries), 64-79. (under-developed 64:)
90-92 the plebs have got steadily/denser, the optimates,/quicker still on the uptake. 64-79. (the optimates 66-79.)
92-93 (Today, even Talleyrand/might seem a naïf: he had so/little to cope with.) (a naïf: 64:) 64-79.
97-99 *but, /though knowing Speech can at best, a shadow echoing/the silent light, bear witness 64:
   but, /while knowing Speech can at best, a shadow echoing/the silent light, bear witness 65-79.
100-2 *as the Francophile/gaggle of pure songsters/are too vain to. 64-79. (the francophil 64:)
102-4 to stink of Poetry/is unbecoming, and never/to be dull shows a lack of taste. (unbecoming and 64:) 64-79.
105-7 *something a man of/honor, awaiting death from cancer or a firing squad,/ could read 64-79. (honour, 66: a firing-squad, 64:)
109-10 in either a prophet's bellow/or a diplomat's whisper). 64-79. (whisper.) 64:)
113-14 *how much, in our lonely caves, we need the companionship/of our good dead, 64:
   how much, in our lonely dens, we need the companionship/of our good dead, 65-79.
115-16 on dowly days when the self is a nonentity/dumped on a mound of nothing,
*and break the spell of our self-enchantment 64:
to break the spell of our self-enchantment 65-79.
you won't think me imposing if/I ask you to stay at my elbow/until
cocktail time: 64-79.  (cocktail-time: 64:)

Postscript: (The *Listener* text lacks this; in SP 72 and SP 79, this is omitted.)

7-9 A poem—a tall story:/But any good one/Makes us want to know. 65-78.
(know 66:)
22-23 *At lucky moments we seem on the brink/Of really saying what we think we think: 65-78.  (At lucky moment 66:)

A cellar underneath the house, though not lived in,

There/(for Irving Weiss)'; SP 1972; CP; SP 1979]

8 lamplit we dine at street level: 64–79.  (lamp-lit, 64:)

13-14 *Encrust with years of clammy grime, the home, maybe,/Of creepy-crawlies or a ghost, 64:

Encrust with years of clammy grime, the lair, maybe,/Of creepy-crawlies or a ghost, 65-79.

14-15 its flagstoned vault/Is not for girls: 64–79.  (flag-stoned 64:)

Men would never have come to need an attic.

(for Anne Weiss)'; SP 1972; CP; SP 1979]

1 64–79.  (an attic: 64:)

2-4 build/Special cabinets for them, dote on, index/Each new specimen: 64–79.
(specimen; 64:)

7-9 *in bulging boxes,/Hats, veils, ribbons, galoshes, programs, letters/Wait
unworshipped 64–79.

(programmes, 64; 66: letters, 64: unworshipped; 64: unworshipped 66–79.)

9-10 a starving spider spins for/The occasional fly: 64:

(a starving spider spins for/The occasional fly): 65–79.

13-14 All it knows of a changing world it has to/Guess from children, who
conjure in its plenum, 64–79.  (children who 64:)

15-16 Now an eyrie for two excited sisters,/Where, when Mother is bad, her
rage can't reach them, 64–79.  (sisters/Where, 64:)

17-18 Now a schooner on which a lonely only/Boy sails north or approaches
coral island. 64–79.  (sails North 64:)
Seated after breakfast

[AH 1965/1966, ‘VI/The Geography of the House/(for Christopher Isherwood)’; SP 72; CP; SP 79]

2-4 *In this white-tiled cabin/Arabs call the House where/Everybody goes, 65-79.

(the Houses 72:)

5-8 Even melancholics/Raise a cheer to Mrs./Nature for the primal/Pleasures
She bestows. 65-79. (she bestows. 66:)

25-27 Revelation came to/Luther in a privy/(Crosswords have been solved there)
( there): 66; 79.) 65-79.

43-45 Banks have letter boxes/Built in their façade,/Marked For Night Deposits,
(façade 76, 78:)

67-70 Swift and St. Augustine/Lived in centuries,/When a stench of sewage/Ever
in the nostrils 65-79. (St Augustine 66: centuries 76-79.)

it is odd that the English


1 62-79. (It is odd 62:)

10-11 (not that papa or his chilblained offspring can/hope to be gentry) 62-79.
( not 62: gentry 62:)

12-14 *still/John Bull’s/hip-bath it was which made one carnal pleasure lawful

still John Bull’s/hip-bath it was/that made one carnal pleasure lawful 62:

15-16 *for the first time since we quarreled/over Faith and Works 62-79.
(quarreled 62; 66:)

17-19 (Shakespeare probably stank/Le Grand/Monarque certainly did) 62-79.
( Shakespeare 62: did 62:)

21-23 *shrines where a sub-arctic fire-cult may meet and marry/a river-cult 62:
shrines where a subarctic fire-cult could meet and marry/a river-cult

23-24 rose again/resweetened the hirsute West 62-79. (re-sweetened 62:)
25-28 *a Roman though/bath addict/amphitheater fan/would be puzzled 62-79.
(amphitheatre 62; 66:)

29-30 *seeing the caracallan acreage/compressed into such a few square feet
(such few square feet 62; 66:)

31 mistake them for hideouts 62-79. (hide-outs 62:)

36-38 if the tepidarium’s/barrel vaulting has migrated/to churches and railroad
stations 62-79. (barrel-vaulting 62: railroad-stations 62:)

42 (you cannot purchase a conjugal tub) 62-79. ( you 62: tub 62:)


St. Anthony and his wild brethren 62-79. (St Anthony 66:)

*(for them ablutions were tabu/a habit of that doomed/behavioral sink this world) 62-79. (44 for 62: 46 behavioural 62: world 62:)

but/enthusiasts who were have shown us 62:
but/enthusiasts who were have taught us 65-79.

(besides showing lovers of nature/how to carry binoculars instead of a gun)
( besides 62: a gun 62:)

a bathroom/has only an inside lock/belongs today to whoever/is taking a bath 62-79. (to-day 62:)

among us/to withdraw from the tribe at will/be neither Parent/Spouse nor Guest 62-79. (neither parent/spouse nor guest 62:)

*where else shall the Average Ego/find its peace/not in sleep surely
(finds 66:)

where else shall the Average Ego/find its peace/not in dreams surely 65:

*the several worlds we invent are quite as pugnacious/as the one into which we are born 62; 76-79. (as quite as pugnacious 65, 66; 72:)

*on Oxford Street or Broadway/we may escape notice but never/on roads we dream of 62:
on Oxford Street or Broadway/I may escape notice/but never/on roads I dream of 65-79.

widows/exiles/failures may feel as self-important/as only children 62:
widows/orphans/exiles may feel as self-important/as an only child 65-79.

*retreat from rhyme or reason into some mallarmesque/syllabic fog 62:
retreat from rhyme and reason into some mallarmesque/syllabic fog 65-79.

good for the soul/once in the twenty-four hour cycle of her body 62-79.
(twenty-four-hour cycle 62:)

the Pilgrim's Way/or as some choose to call it/the War Path 62-79.
(The Pilgrim's Way 62:)

thinking the same as thanking/all military hardware/already slighted and submerged 62-79. (submerged. 62:)

Should the shade of Plato

[New Yorker, 7 March 1959, ‘On Installing an American Kitchen in Lower Austria’; HC, ‘On Installing an American Kitchen in Lower Austria/Erst kommt das Fressen, dann kommt die Moral/For Margaret Gardiner’; AH 1965/1966, ‘VIII/Grub First, Then Ethics (Brecht)/(for Margaret Gardiner)’; SP 72; CP; SP 79]

(Initial capitals of the lines are changed to lower case letters from AH versions except where sentences begin. This alteration is not specifically noted.)

1-3 *Should the shade of Plato/Visit me, anxious to know/How Anthropos is,
(anthropos 60:)

59, 60:
Should the shade of Plato/visit us, anxious to know/how anthropos is, 65-79.

3-4 *I could say to him, “Well,/We can read to ourselves, 59, 60:

(him: ‘Well, 60:)

we could say to him: “Well,/we can read to ourselves, 65-79.

5-6 and a poet/may lament—where is Telford/whose bridged canals are still a Shropshire glory, 59-79. (lament ‘Where 59: lament—Where 60:
lament—’ where 66; 72; 79. Telford, 59: glory? 59:)


10 *where Mr. Vynyian Board, 59-79. (Where 59: Mr 66: Vynian 59:)

11-12 thanks to whose lifelong fuss the hunted whale now suffers/a quicker death?— 59-79. (life-long 60F: death?’ 59: death?’— 66, 72; 79.)

13-14 though none of them bore arms or/made a public splash,’” 59-79.

(splash.” 59: splash’, 60F:)

14-15 *Then “Look!”/I would point out, for a dig at Athens. 59:

then ‘Look’!, /I would point, for a dig at Athens, 60: (“Look” 60R:)

then “Look!”/we would point, for a dig at Athens, 65-79.

17 *Though built last May in Austria, 59, 60:

Though built in Lower Austria, 65-79.

18-20 *do-it-yourself America/prophetically blueprinted this/palace kitchen for kingdoms 59-79. (blue-printed 60F: palace kitchens 66, 72:)

21-22 *and an age when/Courtesy would think, 59:

for an age when/Courtesy would think: 60F:

for an age when/Courtesy might think: 60R-79.

22-24 “From your voice/and the back of your neck I know we shall get on/but cannot tell from your thumbs 59-79. (get on, 59:)

25-26 The right note is harder/to hear than in the Age of Poise 59-79.

(Poise, 59:)

27-28 *When She talked shamelessly to her maid and sang/Noble lies to Him, 59:

when She talked shamelessly to her maid and sang/noble lies with Him, 60-79.

28-30 but struck/it can be still in New Cnossos where if I am/banned by a shrug it is my fault, 59-79. (Cnossos, where 59:)

33-35 The prehistoric hearthstone,/round as a birthday-button/and sacred to Granny, 59-79. (hearth-stone, 60F: birthday button 59:)

35-37 is as old/stuff as the bowel-loosening/nasal war cry, but this all-electric room 59-79. (bowel-loosening, 59: war-cry, 60F: room, 59:)

39-40 *is numinous and again/the center of a dwelling 59-79.

(centre 60F; 66; 72: dwelling, 59:)

41-43 *an abhorrent dungeon/where the warm unlaundered meiny/belched their
comict prose 59-79. (warm, 59: meinie 59:) 45-46 *House-proud, deploring labor, extolling work,/these engines politely insist (labour, 66, 72:) 59-79.
51-52 for the subject of the verb/To hunger is never a name; 59:
for the subject of the verb/to-hunger is never a name: 60-79.
55-57 *reveals a belly/like the serpent’s with the same/vulnerable look. 59-79.
(Like the serpent’s, 59: like a serpent’s 66, 72: look, 66:) 59-79.
57-60 *Jew, Gentile or pigmy,/he must get his calories/before he can consider her profile or/his own, 59-79. (Gentile, or pygmy, 59:)
61 and take what there is however hard to get down: 59-79.
(there is, 59: down. 59:) 67-69 but in murder mysteries/one can be sure the gourmet/didn’t do it: 59-79.
(Didn’t do it; 59:) 71 and one can dislike having to kiss them yet, 59-79. (kiss them, yet, 59:)
72-73 *Compared to the thin-lipped, they/Are seldom detestable. 59:
compared with the thin-lipped, they/are seldom detestable. 60-79.
81-83 *The houses of our City/are real enough but they lie/haphazardly scattered over the earth, 59-79. (the houses 66: enough, 59:)
87-89 Where the/power lies remains to be seen,/the force, though, is clearly with them: 59-79. (to be seen; 59: The Force, 60F: with them. 59:)
91-92 perhaps only/by falling can She become/Her own vision, 59-79.
(Perhaps 59:)
91-92 but we have sworn under four eyes/to keep Her up—all we ask for,
(up. All 59:) 59-79.

Note at the bottom of the first page of this poem in AH 1965/1966:
(N.B. Under the title "On Installing an American Kitchen in Lower Austria," this poem appeared in my previous volume Homage to Clio. At that time, I did not realize that its proper place was in a cycle.)

Ours yet not ours, being set apart
[AH 1965/1966, 'IX/For Friends Only/(for John and Teckla Clark)'; SP 72; CP; SP 79]
(No variance between the five texts.)

The life of plants
[AH 1965/1966, 'X/Tonight at Seven-thirty/(for M.F.K. Fisher)'; SP 72; CP; SP 79]
11-14 *Only man,/supererogatory beasts,/Dame Kind's thoroughbred lunatic, can/
do the honors of a feast, 65-79. (honours 66, 72:)
34-35 we think of ourselves or nothing. Christ's cenacle/seated a baker's dozen,
(nothing, 66, 72:) 65-79.

41-44 in fact, six lenient semblie sieges, / none of them perilous, // is now a Perfect/Social Number. 65-79. (social Number. 66, 72:)
78-79 * and one wide-traveled worldling to interject now and then a sardonic comment, 65-79. (wide-travelled 66, 72:)

Don Juan needs no bed, being far too impatient to undress,
[Encounter, Dec. 1963, 'The Cave of Nakedness (For Louis and Emmie Kronenberger)'; AH 1965/1966, 'XI/The Cave of Nakedness/(for Louis and Emmie Kronenberger)'; SP 72; CP; SP 79]
2-3 * nor do Tristan and Isolda, much too in love to think of so mundane a matter, 63:

nor do Tristan and Isolda, much too in love to care for so mundane a matter, 65-79.

3-4 but unmythical/mortals require one, and prefer to take their clothes off,
(one and 63:) 63-79.
6-8 * why Peeping Toms/are never praised, like novelists or bird watchers,/ for their keenness of observation: 63-79. (bird-watchers, 63: * keenness 63:)
11-13 *(Our dreams may be recounted, / but our deeds of errantry in the wilderness of wish 63:
(Dreams may be repeatable, / but our deeds of errantry in the wilderness of wish 65-79.
21 need a drawing room of their own. 63-79. (drawing-room 63:)
23-24 * bona fide architects know / that doors are not emphatic enough, and interpose, 63-79. (bone fide 72: enough and 63:)
29-30 should not be off-hand or abrupt: a stair retards it / to a solemn procession.
(abrupt; 63:) 63-79.
33-34 I have suffered the transit over forty thousand times, / usually, to my chagrin, by myself: 63-79. (by myself; 63:)
34-36 * about/blended flesh, those midnight colloquia of Derbies and Joans, / I know nothing therefore, 63-79. (Darbies 63: nothing, 63:)
37-38 Some perks belong, though / to all unwilling celibates: 63-79.
(though, 63: celibates; 63:)
40-41 *(as we grow older, it's true, we may find it prudent / to go nodding drunk first), 63:
(as we grow older, it's true, we may find it prudent / to get nodding drunk first), 65-79.
42-43 *(That I often start with sundry/splendors at sundry times greened after,
(splendours 63; 66, 72:)
45-46 * Ordinary human unhappiness / is life in its natural color, to cavil/putting
on airs: 63-79. (colour, 63; 66, 72:)

47-49 *at day-wester to think of nothing/benign to memorize is as rare as feeling/
no personal blemish, 63-79. (memorise 63:)

49-50 and Age, despite its damage,/is well-off. 63-79. (well off. 63:)

51-52 Fifty-plus may be bored, but Seventeen is faced by/a frowning failure,
with no money, no mistress, 63-79. (bored but 63:)

54-55 *to say a few words at banquets,/to attend a cocktail party in honor of N
or M, can be severe, 63-79.
(a cocktail-party 66, 72: honour 63; 66, 72:)

57-58 with dear Papa and Mama/being odd in the wrong way. 63-79.
(papa and mama 63:)

60-61 When I disband from the world,/and entrust my future to the Gospel
Makers, 63-79. (world/and 63: the Gospel-Makers, 63:)

64-66 the assaults I would be spared/are none of them princely—fire,
nightmare, insomnia's/Vision of Hell, 63-79. (princely, fire, 63:)

69-70 each life a worthless iteration/of the general loathing 63-79.
(loathing. 63:)

70-72 (to know that, probably,/its cause is chemical can degrade the panic,/not
stint it). 63-79. (To know 63: it.) 63:)

72-73 the Holy Four/exempt my nights from nuisance, and even wake me/when
I would be woken, 63-79. (nuisance and 63:)

78-79 that joy in beginning/for which our species was created, and 63-79.
(created and 63:)

81-82 to bless/the Trinity that we are corporal contraptions, 63-79.
(The Trinity 63:)

83-84 but only a villain will omit to thank Our Lady or/her henwife, Dame Kind,
(hen-wife, 63:)

84-85 as he, she, or both ensemble,/emerge from a private cavity 63-79.
(ensemble 66, 72:)

85-86 *to be reborn,/reneighbored in the Country of Consideration. 63-79.
(re-born, 63: re-neighboured 63: reneighboured 66, 72: in the County 66:)

Postscript: (Added from 65 on, but omitted in SP 72 and SP 79.)

12-14 No winter in Dreamland:/Thermometers there/Stand always at blood-heat.
(bloodheat. 66:)

A living room, the catholic area you

man’); London Magazine, Jan. 1964; The Common Life (1964, a pamphlet)*; AH
1965/1966, ‘XII/The Common Life/(for Chester Kallman’; SP 72 ; CP ; SP 79]
(The New York Review of Books text is set in italics, with three words and one
clause in Roman types for stress; but here the italics are treated as Roman types, and the Roman types as italics, for convenience sake.)

1 63-79. (A living-room, 63, 64: A living room 66:)

5-7 he compares its dogmas/with his, and decides whether/he would like to see more of us. 63-79. (his and 63:)

9-10 so do cups used for ashtrays or smeared/with lipstick: 63-79.

(ash-trays 63, 64: lip stick: 63: lip-stick: 64:)

10-11 the homes I warm to/though seldom wealthy, always convey 63-79.

(warm to/though 63:)

11-13 *a feeling/of bills being promptly settled//with checks that don't bounce. )

(with cheques 63, 64:)

16-17 a room is too small, therefore,//if its occupants cannot forget at will

(A room 66, 72:)

21-23 Plainly,/ours is a sitting culture/in a generation which prefers comfort

(a sitting-culture 63:)

27-29 a quick glance/at book titles would tell him//:that we belong to the clerisy

(book-titles 63:)

32-34 or what names//:head our roll call of persons we would least like/to go to bed with? 63-79. (roll-call 63, 64:)

39-40 *how, though, they create a common world//between them, 63, 64: how they create, though, a common world//between them, 65-79.

42-43 Still, they do/manage to forgive impossible behavior, 63-79.

(behaviour, 64; 66, 72:)

44-46 to endure by some miracle/:conversational tics and larval habits//without wincing 63-79. (to endure, by some miracle, 63, 64:)

47-49 It's a wonder that neither//has been butchered by accident,//:or, 63-79.

(accident//:or, 64:)

53-55 under the glassy look/of a Naples Bambino,:the portrayed regards of Strauss and Stravinsky, 63-79. (Bambino. The 63:)

56 doing British crossword puzzles, 63-79. (crossword-puzzles, 63, 64:)

57-58 *I am glad the builder gave/our common-room small windows 63, 64: I'm glad the builder gave/our common-room small windows 65-79.

63-65 *the arts of quelling/the Dark Lord and his hungry/animivorous chimeras.

(chimaeras. 63, 64:)

69-70 The ogre will come in any case://so Joyce has warned us. 63-79.

(case: 63, 64:)
We've covered ground since that awkward day
[AH 1965/1966, epigraph to the second part; CP, p. 539, the third of the 'Shorts I']
(No change between the three texts.)

Corns, heartburn, sinus headaches, such minor ailments

2-3 *Tell of estrangement between your name and you,/Advise a change of air:
62; 65-78.

Tell of estrangement between your name and you,/Suggest a change of air:
64:

5 Against the flashy errands of your dreams. 62-78. (dreams 66:)
7-8 Or trade in an agglutinative tongue/With a stone-age culture, 62-78.
(culture 62, 64:)
9 *To go Elsewhere is to withdraw from movement, 62; 65-78.
(elsewhere 62: movement: 62:)
To go elsewhere is to abstain from movement; 64:
10 A side step, a short one, will convey you thither. 62-78.
(A side-step, 62, 64:)
11-12 Although its chaffinches, maybe, have learned/The dialect of another river basin, 62-78. (river-basin, 62, 64:)
14 It has a priest, a postmistress, an usher, 62-78. (a post-mistress, 62, 64:)
16-17 *Within its average elsewhereishness/Your name is as a mirror answers,
(elsewhereishness 62:)
17-18 yourself/How you behave in shops, the tips you give: 62-78. (give; 64:)
21 *Nor, when you both return (you will, of course) 62:
Nor when you both return here (you will, of course), 64:
Nor, when you both return here (for you will) 65-78.
23-24 Will it salute your reconciliation/With farewell rites, or populate your absence 62-78. (rites or 62:)
26-28 *No study of your public reappearance
Will show, as judgment on a cure demands,
A sudden change in love, ideas, or diet: 62-78.
(26 re-appearance 62: 27 judgement 64: 28 ideas or diet: 62: ideas or diet: 64:)
29-30 *Your sojourn elsewhere will remain wordless/Hiatus in your voluble biography. 62, 64:
Your sojourn Elsewhere will remain a wordless/Hiatus in your voluble biography. 65-78.

31-32 *Fanatic scholarship at most may prove/That you resigned from a Committee, 62, 64:

Fanatic scholarship at most may prove/That you resigned from some Committee, 65-78.

32-33 unearth/A letter from the Grand Duke to his cousin, 62-78.

(The Grand-Duke 64:)

Really, must you,

[Badger, Autumn 1960*; Saturday Evening Post, 3 March 1962, 'You'; AH 1965/1966; CP; SP 79]

1-4 Really, must you,/Over-familiar/Dense companion,/Be there always? 62-79.

(Overfamiliar 62:)

5-7 The bond between us/Is chimerical surely:/Yet I cannot break it. 62-79.

(chimerical, 62:)

11-14 *So you may worship/Your secular bread/With no sense/Of the value of time? 62:

So you may worship/Your secular bread, /With no thought/Of the value of time? 65-79.

15-17 *Thus far I have seen your/Character only/From its pleasanter side, 62:

Thus far I have known your/Character only/From its pleasanter side, 65-79.

18-21 *But you know I know/A day will come/When you go savage/And hurt me badly. 62:

But you know I know/A day will come/When you grow savage/And hurt me badly. 65-79.

22-23 *Totally stupid?/Would you were! 62:

Totally stupid?/Would that you were: 65-79.

24-26 But, no, you plague me/With tastes I was fool enough/Once to believe in.

(believe in: 62:)

27-28 Bah!, blockhead:/I know where you learned them. 62-79.

(Bah, blockhead, 62:)


31-34 I suspect strongly/You hold some dogma/Of positive truth,/And feed me fictions: 62-79. (Of Positive Truth 62:)

44-46 Why am I certain,/Whatever your faults are,/The fault is mine, 62-79.

(mine? 62:)

47-49 Why is loneliness not/A chemical discomfort,/Nor Being a smell? 62-79.

(discomfort/Nor 62: being 62:)


Who, now, seeing Her so


(NY stands for the New York Review of Books reading.)

7-9 Her jungle growths/Are abated,/Her exorbitant monsters abashed, NY, 65:

Her jungle growths/Are abated, her exorbitant/Monsters abashed, 66-79.

(her exorbitant 76-79.)

For over forty years I’d paid it atlas homage,


1 62-78. (atlas-homage, 62:)

2-3 producing/The best deep-frozen fish sticks you can buy: 62-78.

(the best 66: fish-sticks 62; 66:)

3-4 for three days,/I pottered round, a monolingual pilgrim, 62-78. (days 62:)

5 *And drank the beer of the town’s most northern brewery. 62:

And drank the beer of the world’s most northern brewery. 65-78.

6-8 *I saw/No orgies, no great worms, nor dreamed of any during/Three sunny nights: 62-78. (nor dreamt 62:)

8-9 louts, though, German this time,/Had left their usual mark. 62:

louts, though—German this time—/Had left their usual mark. 65-78.

12-13 something odd was happening/Soundwise. 62-78. (Sound-wise. 62:)

21-23 The only communities it had to judge us by/Were cenobite, mosses and

lichen, sworn to/Station and reticence: 62-78. (lichen 62:)

23-25 its rocks knew almost nothing,/Nothing about the glum Reptilian Empire/

Or the epic journey of the Horse, 62-78.

(reptilian empire 62: of the horse, 62:)

25-26 had heard no tales/Of that preglacial Actium 62-78. (pre-glacial 62:)

26-28 *when the huge/Archaic shrubs went down before the scented flowers,/And

earth was won for color. 62-78. (flowers 62: colour. 62; 66:)

31-33 *to realize/How we behave to regions or to beings/Who have anything we

want: 62:

(to realize/How we behave to regions or to beings/Who have anything we’re

after: 65-78.

35-37 to fail to notice/How garden plants and farmyard beasts look at us,/Or

refuse to look, 62-78. (us/Or 62:)

Notes on the two phrases, used in ll. 6 and 8 respectively, at the bottom of the page:

(N.B. The Moral Circle: a jocular term, used by southern Norwegians, for the

Arctic Circle. German this time: in 1945 the retreating Wehrmacht burnt down
every single house.) 62-78.
Unwashed, unshat,

[Lesbók Morgunbla sins, 31 May 1964*; Encounter, July 1964, 'Iceland Revisited (for Basil and Susan Boothby)'; Iceland Review, (Autumn) 1964; AH 1965/1966, 'Iceland Revisited (for Basil and Susan Boothby)'; CP]

(64 and IR stand for the Encounter and the Iceland Review readings respectively.)

2-3 *He was whisked from the plane/To a lunch in his honor. 64-78.

honour. 64; 66:

4-6 He hears a loud-speaker/Call him well known,/But knows himself no better.

64, IR:

5-6 He hears a loud-speaker/Call him well-known:/But knows himself no better.

65-78.

7-9 Twenty-eight years ago/Three slept well here./Now one is married, one dead,

64-78. (here: IR:)

10-12 Where the harmonium stood/A radio:/Have the Fittest survived? 64-78.

(A radio— IR:)

16-18 The bondi's sheep dog/And the visitor from New York/Conversed freely.

(The bondi's IR: The bondi's 76, 78. sheep-dog 64, IR:) 64-78.

19-21 Snow had camouflaged/The pool of liquid manure:/The town mouse fell in.

(The town-mouse 64, IR:) 64-78.

22-24 (ll.7-9) 64, IR:

28-31 Suddenly,/In the storm's eye,/A dark speck,//Perseus in an air-taxi,

64, IR:

Suddenly/In the storm's eye/A dark speck,/Perseus in an air-taxi, 65-78.

(Suddenly, 66:)

Among pelagian travelers,

[New Yorker, 4 July 1964, 'On the Circuit'; AH 1965/1966; CP; SP 79]

1 *64-79. (pelagian travellers 64: Pelagian travellers, 66:)

2-4 Lost on their lewd conceited way/To Massachusetts, Michigan,/Miami or L. A.,

64-79. (lewd, 64:)

5 An airborne instrument I sit, 64-79. (instrument, 64:)

6-8 *Predestined nightly to fulfill/Columbia-Giesen-Management's/Unfathomable will, 64-79. (fulfil 66: Columbia-Giesen Management's 64:)

9-11 By whose election justified,/I bring my gospel of the Muse/To fundamentalists, 64-79. (justified/I 64:)

17-19 Though warm my welcome everywhere,/I shift so frequently, so fast,/I cannot now say where I was 64-79. (everywhere/I 66:)

27-28 *With, here, an addict of Tolkien,/There, a Charles Williams fan. 64-79.
Since Merit but a dunghill is, / I mount the rostrum unafraid: 64-79.

A sulky fifty-six, he finds / A change of mealtime utter hell, 64-79.

*Nor bear with equanimity / The radio in students' cars, / Musak at breakfast, 64-79.

or—dear God!—/Girl-organists in bars. 64-79.

Then, worst of all, the anxious thought, 64-79. (all 66:)

Each time my plane begins to sink / And the No Smoking sign comes on: (comes on, 64:)

What will there be to drink? 64-79. (drink? 64:)

Is this a milieu where I must

How grahamgreeneish! How infra dig!

Snatch from the bottle in my bag

An analeptic swig? 64-79.

I see, / Dwindling below me on the plain, / The roofs of one more audience 64:

I see, / Dwindling below me on the plane, / The roofs of one more audience 65-79.

God bless the lot of them, although / I don't remember which was which: (which was which; 64:)

FOUR OCCASIONAL POEMS

[ AH 1965/1966, 'I/ A Toast/ (Christ Church Gaudy, 1960); CP, 'Eleven Occasional Poems/ I. A Toast/ (Christ Church Gaudy, 1960)']

13-14 *In Peck there were marvelous parties/ With bubbly and brandy and grouse, (marvellous 66:)

Necessity knows no Speech. Not even


(Inscription)

Die Sprache ist die Mutter, nicht die Magd, des Gedankens. / —K. Kraus 62-78.

(die Magd 62: des Gedankens Karl Kraus 62: des Gedankens. / K. Kraus 76, 78.)

1 62-78. (no speech: not even 62:)
5-6 Nor do Jack and Jill, like thrushes, / Grow outspoken under May's compulsion: 62-78. (compulsion. 62:)

7-8 A scream can be uncontrollable, and yawning a rudeness / One has to be excused, 62-78. (uncontrollable and 62:)

10-12 Who means Good Morning reveals he is not / Napoleon or / Napoleon's cook, (Good-morning 62: cook 62:) 62-78.

12-14 *but quite as born, a first author, / Ready in turn to answer for / A story he cannot invent 62:
   but quite as born, a new author, / Ready in turn to answer for / A story he cannot invent 65-78.

16-17 *And must leave to others to tell with what / Prejudice they prefer. 62:
   But must leave to others to tell with what / Prejudice they prefer. 65-78.

16-17 *Social charmers daren't invite comment / And a chatterbox doesn't: 62:
   Social climbers daren't invite comment, / And a chatterbox doesn't: 65-78.

19-21 *there's International Babel, / In which murders / Are a sanitary measure 62:
   there's International Babel, / In which murders / Are sanitary measures 65-78.

21-23 and stockbrokers / Integrity-ridden, for sirs / Who think big, 62-78.
   (Integrity-ridden for 62:)

26-27 with banner headlines guaranteed, / And applause prerecorded. 62-78.
   (guaranteed / And 62: pre-recorded. 62:)

28-30 But Dame Philology is our Queen still, / Quick to comfort / Truth-loving hearts in their mother tongue 62-78. (mother-tongue 62:)

30-33 *(to report / On the miracles she has wrought / In the U.K., the N.E.D. / Takes fourteen tomes): 62:
   (to report / On the miracles She has wrought / In the U.K., the O.E.D. / Takes fourteen tomes): 65-76:
   (to report / On the miracles She has wrought / In the U.K., the O.E.D. / Takes thirteen tomes): 78.

37-38 No hero is immortal till he dies / Nor is a tongue, 62:
   No hero is immortal till he dies: / Nor is a tongue. 65-78.

39-40 But a lay of Beowulf's language too can be sung, / Ignoble, maybe, to the young, 62-78. (language, too, 62:)

43-45 *a lot of us are grateful for / What J.R.R. Tolkien has done / As bard to Anglo-Saxon. 62-78. (Tolkein 65:)

Why then, why there,

1-2 Why then? Why there? Why thus, we cry, did he die? 64:
   Why then, why there, why thus, we cry, did he die? 65-78.
3 The heavens are silent. 64-78. (The Heavens 64:)
10-12 When a just man dies, Lamentation and praise, Sorrow and joy, are one.
   (joy are 64:) 64-78.

Withdrawn from the Object-World
[AH 1965/1966, 'IV/Lines for Elizabeth Mayer/on the occasion/of her eightieth
birthday,/April 6th, 1964'; CP, ‘IV. Lines for Elizabeth Mayer/on the occasion/
of her eightieth birthday,/April 6th, 1964’]
4-6 And extinct/The governesses who played/Chopin, Opus 31: 65-78.
   (Opus 31: 66:)

Deep in earth's opaque mirror,
[AH 1965/1966, 'Symmetries & Asymmetries'; CP]
(‘This consists of 42 short pieces, ranging from two to six lines. The figures in
parentheses at the head show the number of a piece originally unnumbered in the
texts.)
(18) 1-3 *Self and Shadow:/By day a comic pair,/At moonprime one and somber.
   (sombre. 66:) 65-78.
(32) 1-3 *How image today/The Knight's lonely Quest? On all roads/Lauter Leute.
   (Lauter Leute. 66:) 65-78.
(39) 1-3 Loneliness waited/For Reality/To come through the glory hole. 65-78.
   (the glory-hole 66:)

FOUR TRANSLITERATIONS

"Silly girl, listen!"
Auden*; Selected Poems of Adam Mickiewicz (1956)*; AH 1965/1966, ‘I/The
Romantic (Adam Mickiewicz)’]
23-25 *What can she hear? They have made him
   A grave, two years ago laid him
   Away with the dead. 65, 66.
   (The Faber text has l. 25 duplicately between ll. 23 and 24. This seems
   the printer’s error.)

Extinct volcanoes are silent:
[Encounter, April 1963, ‘Bella Akhmadulina/Volcanoes’; Half-way to the Moon;
New Writers from Russia (1964)*; AH 1965/66, 'II/Volcanoes (Bella Akhmadulina)'

14-15 *Girls gather armfuls of flowers/And Bacchantes give a meaning sign/To men 63:
   Girls gather armfuls of flowers;/Bacchantes give a meaning sign/To men 65, 66.

19-20 *O my Pompeii in your cindery grave,/Child of a princess and a slave! 63:
   (*my Pompeii 63:) 63-66.

22-23 *What were you thinking of and whom,/When you leaned your elbow thus
   (whom/When 63: *elbows 66.) 63-66.

Every railroad station keeps a book for complaints,

1 63-66. (for complaints 63:)
2 And, if you ask for it, they have to give it you. 63-66. (give it you: 63:)
3-4 It wouldn't be a bad idea, I think,/If eternity had a book like that: 63-66.
   (like that, 63:)
8 *To universal attention and judgment. 63-66. (judgement. 63:)
9-12 How we should then be struck, I know,/By one entry of half a line,/written/By that woman 63-66. (half a line/written/ 63:)

Along a parabola life like a rocket flies,

3-4 Redheaded bohemian Gauguin, the painter,/Started out life as a prosperous stockbroker: 63-67.
   (Red-headed 63; 67. Gauguin the painter 63; 67. stockbroker. 63; 67.)
5 In order to get to the Louvre from Montmartre, 63-67. (Montmartre 63; 67.)
6-7 He made a detour all through Java, Sumatra,/Tahiti, the Isles of Marquesas...
   (Marquesas. 63; 67.) 63-67.
15-16 *He rose like a howling rocket, insulting them/With a gale that tore off the tails of their frock coats, 63-67.
   (*tore off the rails 66: frock-coats. 63: frock coats. 67.)
17 So he didn't steal into the Louvre by the front door, 63-67.
   (the front-door 63: the front door 67.)
19 *In finding their truth lives vary in daring: 63-67. (their truths 63; 67.)
20 *Worms come through holes and bold men on parabolas. 63; 67.
   Worms come through holes, bold men on parabolas. 65, 66.
There once was a girl who lived in my neighborhood: 63, 65; 67.
(neighborhood. 63: neighborhood. 67.)

There was once a girl who lived in my neighborhood: 66:

each as 63; 67. antenna-rod 63: antenna rod 67.)

Sending its call sign out through the freezing/Dark of the universe, 63-67.
(call-sign 63:)

how you rang out to me,/An undoubtable signal, an earthly standby,
(stand-by 63; 67.) 63-67.

From whom I might get my flight bearings to land by. 63-67.
(flight-bearings 63:)

Laughing at law with its warnings and paragraphs, 63-67.
(paragraphs 63; 67.)

Art, love and history race along recklessly/Over a parabolic trajectory.
(love, and 67.) 63-67.

He is leaving tonight for Siberia. 63-67. (to-night 63:)

Unmarried, nearsighted, rather deaf,


3-5 *The legendary ancestor/Of Gunsmiths to His Majesty/And other bespoke houses, 63, 64:

Legendary ancestor/Of Gunsmiths to His Majesty/And other bespoke houses:— 65-78.

8-10 *he reckons/Days by the job done and at night/Dreams of the Perfect Object,

he measures/Days by the job done, and at night/Dreams of the Perfect Object, 63, 64:

13-14 *Not a musician: songs/Encourage laboring demes, amuse the idle, 63–78.
(labouring 64; 66:)

15-16 *But would distract a self-appointed worker/From measuring a hammer's dactyl. 63:

But would distract a self-appointed worker/From listening to a hammer's dactyl. 64:

But would distract a self-appointed worker/From listening to his hammer's dactyl. 65–78.

19-20 His prices are high and if he doesn’t like you/He won’t oblige: 63, 64:

His prices are high and, if he doesn’t like you,/He won’t oblige: 65–78.
20-22 *the Quality/Are made to learn their charm is useless,/A threat fatal.

once more the Quality/Are made to learn that charm is useless,/A threat fatal. 63-78.

23-24 he has no rival,/And he knows you know it. 63-78. (rival/And 63, 64:)
25-26 His love, embodied in each useful wonder,/Can't save them in our world from insult, 63-78. (insult 63, 64:)
27-28 beware, then, maladroit,/Thumb-sucking children of all ages, 63-78.
(maladroit 63, 64:)

Unrhymed, unrhythmical, the chatter goes:
[AH 1965/1966, 'At the Party'; CP]
9 Will no one listen to my little song? 65-78. (song? 66:)

Lost on a fogbound spit of sand
[AH 1965/1966, 'Lost'; CP, p. 540, the seventh of the 'Shorts I']
(No variance between the three versions.)

A sweet tooth taught us to admire
[AH 1965/1966, 'Bestiaries are Out'; CP, 'Bestiaries Are Out']
25-26 *No. Who can learn to love his neighbor/From neuters whose one love is labor, 65-78. (neighbour 66: labour, 66:)

If all a top physicist knows
[New Yorker, 17 Nov. 1962, 'After Reading a Child's Guide to Modern Physics';
AH 1965/1966; CP; SP 79]
3-5 Then, for all the so-and-so's,/Futility and grime,/Our common world contains, 62-79. (so-and-sos, 62: Futility, and grime 62:)
6-8 We have a better time/Than the Greater Nebulae do,/Or the atoms in our brains. 62-79. (do/Or 62:)
9-10 Marriage is rarely bliss/But, surely it would be worse 62-79.
(surely, 62; 66:)
11-13 *As particles to pelt/At thousands of miles per sec/About a universe 62:
As particles to pelt/At thousands of miles per sec/About a universe 65-79.
17-18 Though the face at which I stare/While shaving it be cruel 62-79.
(cruel, 62:)
19-20 *Since year after year it repels/An aging suitor, 62:
For, year after year, it repels/An ageing suitor, 65-79. (aging 65:)
28-29 That architects enclose/A quiet Euclidean space: 62-79.
(A quiet, Euclidean space— 62:)

W.H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (Ⅶ)

36-38 But I would rejoice in it more/If I knew more clearly what/We wanted the knowledge for, 62-79. (for— 62:)

42-44 *And whether our concern/For magnitude’s extremes/Really become a creature 62-79. (Really becomes 62:)

46-47 Or politicizing Nature/Be altogether wise, 62-79. (nature 62:)

From leaf to leaf in silence


13-14 Pleased with his one good remark,/A cuckoo repeats it, 64-78.

(it: 64; 66:)

34-35 Will as we may to believe/That parting should be 64-78. (be, 64:)

40-43 Here on out as permanent,/Obvious to all,/As the presence in each//Of a glum kundry, 64-78. (to all/As 64:)

Komm Schöpfer Geist I bellow as Herr Beer


(Epigraph)

Grace dances. I would pipe. Dance ye all./(for H.A. Reinhold) 63:


(all./ACTS OF JOHN 76, 78.)

4-6 *outside car-worshippers enact/the ritual exodus from Vienna/their successful cult demands 63-78. (outside, 63: car-worshipers 65: demands, 63:)

6-8 *(though reckoning time/by the Jewish week and the Christian year/like their pedestrian fathers). 63-78. ( though 63: *pedestian 65: fathers. 63:)

8-10 When Mass is over,/although obedient to Canterbury,/I shall be well gruss-gotted, 63-78. (Although 66:)

10-12 asked to contribute/to Caritas, though a metic come home/to lunch on my own land: 63-78. (a metic, 63:)

20-21 but we believe it could/and the divine Tiberius didn’t. 63-78. (Divine 63:)

21-22 Rejoice, the bells/cry to me. 63-78. (‘Rejoice’, 63:)

22-24 Blake’s Old Nobodaddy/in his astronomic telescopic heaven,/the Big White Christian upstairs, is dead, 63-78.

(‘Blake’s 63: The Big 63: upstairs is dead 63:)

26-27 *no more need sons of the menalty,/divining their future from plum stones,

(their futures from plum-stones, 63:)

29-31 *(The Ape of the Living God/knows how to stage a funeral, though,/as
penitents like it: 63-78. (as penitents like it: 63:)
31-33 Babel, like Sodom, still/has plenty to offer, though of course it draws/a better sort of crowd.) 63-78. (to offer though, of course, 63:)
33-35 Rejoice: we who were born/congenitally deaf are able/to listen now to rank outsiders. 63-78. (outsiders: 63:)
35-37 The Holy Ghost/does not abhor a golfer's jargon,/a Lower-Austrian accent, 63-78. (the Holy Ghost 63: Lower Austrian 63:)
37-41 *the cadences even/of my own little Anglo-American/musico-literary set'.

the cadences even/of my own little Anglo-American/musico-literary set (though difficult,/saints at least may think in algebra/without sin):

41 but no sacred nonsense can stand Him. 63-78. (But 63:)
42-43 *Our magical syllables melt away,/our tribal formulae are laid bare: 63:
   Our magic syllables melt away,/our tribal formulae are laid bare: 65-78.
43-45 since this morning,/it is with a vocabulary/made wholesomely profane,
   (morning/it 63:)
46-47 *that we endeavor/each in his idiom to express the true magnalia 63-78.
   (endeavour 63; 66:)
48-49 which need no hallowing from us, loaning terms,/exchanging graves and legends. 63-78. (legends 63:)
49-50 (Maybe, when just now/Kirchstetten prayed for the dead, 63-78.
   (maybe, 63:)
50-53 only I/remembered Franz Joseph the Unfortunate, who danced/once in eighty-six years and never/used the telephone.) 63-78.
   (the Unfortunate,/who danced once 63: telephone. 63:)
54-56 An altar bell makes a noise/as the Body of the Second Adam/is shown to some of his torturers, 63-78. (An altar-bell 63: the body 63: His 63:)
56-57 *forcing them/to visualize absent enemies 63-78. (visualise 63:)
58-59 *with the same right to grow hybrid corn and be wicked/as an
   Abendlander. 63-78. (an Abendlander. 63: an Abendländer. 66:)
61-62 where minefield and watchtower say NO EXIT/from peace-loving
   Crim tartary, 63-78. (mine-field and watch-tower 63: NO EXIT 63:)
63-64 *from Loipersbach/to the Bering Sea not a living stockbroker, 63-78.
   (Behring 63:)
67-69 We shall bury you/and dance at the wake, say her chiefs: that, says
   Reason/is unlikely. 63-78. (Reason, 63:)
69-70 *But to most people/I'm the wrong color: 63-78. (colour: 63; 66:)
70-71 *it could be the looter's turn/for latrine duty and the flogging block,
   (the looters' 63: latrine-duty 63: flogging-block, 63:)}
72-73 my kin who trousered Africa, carried our smell/to germless poles. 63-78. (Poles. 63: poles 66:)
74-75 Down a Gothic nave/comes our Pfarrer now, blessing the West with water: 63-78. (gothic 63:)
76-77 There is no Queen's English/in any context for Geist or Esprit: 63-78. (for Geist or Esprit: 66:)
77-79 *about/catastrophe or how to behave in one/I know nothing, except what everyone knows— 63-66:
     about/catastrophe or how to behave in one/what do I know, except what everyone knows— 76, 78.
80 if there when Grace dances, I should dance. 63-78. (If 63:)
INTRODUCTORY NOTES

This article intends to list the variant readings found between the texts of the poems included in *City Without Walls and Other Poems* and all the available printings preceding and succeeding them. The quoted line or lines are from the Faber and Faber first edition text. The style of listing the variants adopted in this list is the same as that in my preceding articles. Abbreviations used in the square brackets are as follows:

- **CWW** = *City Without Walls and Other Poems* (Faber and Faber, 1969; Random House, 1970)
- **CP** = *Collected Poems* (Random House/Faber and Faber, 1976; corrected printing, 1978)

In the list, 69 and 70 designate, respectively, the readings of the Faber and Faber and the Random House texts of the CWW poems.

The limitation on the printed pages does not permit of presenting the variant list of all the CWW poems. What is printed here is the result of collation of twenty-two poems. The variant readings involved in the versions of the remaining poems will be published in the next article together with those of the *Academic Graffiti* (1971) poems. I am, as always, grateful to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University, for his continuous encouragement and generous help.

September 1, 1983 Y.S.Y.

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*At Twenty we find our friends for ourselves, but it takes Heaven*

(CWW 1969/1970, ‘For/PETER HEYWORTH’ (epigraph to the volume); CP, p. 540, the fifth of the ‘Shorts I’ (in Roman types))

2 *To find us one when we are Fifty-Seven. 69–78. (Fifty-Seven 70:)*
... "Those fantastic forms, fang-sharp,


(The capital letter at the head of each line is used only in the New Yorker text. In
the other texts it is used only where a sentence begins.)

1 68-78. ("Those 68: ... "Those 69, 70: ... 'Those 76, 78.

2-4 that in Byzantine painting/were a short-hand for the Unbounded/beyond the
Pale, 68-78. (a shorthand 68; 70-78.)

4-5 *unpoliced spaces/where dragons dwelt and demons roamed, 68-78.

( *unpoliced 68 :)

6-7 "colonised only by ex-worldlings./penitent sophists and sodomites. 68-78.

("Colonized 68: "colonized 70: 'colonized 76, 78: sophists, 68 :)

10-11 hermits, perfec, are all today,//"with numbered caves in enormous jails,
(to-day, 76, 78.)

12-13 hotels designated to deteriorate/their glum already-corrupted guests,
(already corrupted 68: )

17-19 lawless marches/where gangs clash and cops turn/robber-barons: 68-78.

(Robbet barons: 68:)

22-23 cell-meetings where sub-cultures/may hold palaver, like-minded, 68-78.

(Cell meetings 68: cell meetings 70: subcultures 68; 70:)

24-25 *their tongues tattooed by the tribal jargon/of the vice or business that brothers
them; 68-78. (*tattooed 68; 70-78. them: 68:)

26-28 "and mean cafés to remain open,//where in bad air belly-talkers, 68-78.
(open/Where, in bad air, 68:)

31-32 "Every work-day Eve fares/forth to the stores her foods to pluck, 68-78.
(workday 68; 70:)

36-37 "The week-end comes that once was holy,//free still, but a feast no longer,
(weekend 68; 70: Free still but 68:)

38-39 *just time out, idiorhythmic,/when no one cares what his neighbour does: 68-78.

(idiorrhythmic, 68: neighbor 68; 70-78.)

51 *"And soon computers may expel from the world 68:

(Quite soon computers may expel from the world 69-78.

53-54 *The egos they leisure be left to dig/Value, virtue 68:

the egos they leisure be left to dig/value and virtue 69-78.

58-59 where Troll-Father, Tusked-Mother,/are dream-monsters like dinosaurs
(Tusked-Mother 68:)

61-63 *"A Gadgeted Age, yet as unworldly/As when faintly the light filtered down/
On the first men in Mirkwood, 68:

"A Gadgeted Age, but as unworldly/as when the faint light filtered down/on
the first men in Mirkwood, 69-78.

64 waiting their turn at the water-hole 68-78. (the water hole 68; 70:)

(To-day, 68: 78.)
66-68 “Small marvel, then, if many adopt cancer as the only offered career/while, 68-78.  (Worth-while, 68:)
68-70 *if wards are full of gents who believe they are Jesus Christ/or guilty of the Unforgivable Sin: 68-78. (*they are 69: Unforgivable 68; 70:)
71-73 “is arcadian lawns where classic shoulders, baroque bottoms, make beaux gestes, is too tame a dream 68-78. (bottoms 68: beaux gestes 68:)
76-77 “if few now applaud a play that ends/with warmth and pardon the word to all, 68-78. (to all 68:)
78-80 *the bridal pairs, rustic and oppidan, in a ring-dance, image the stars at their stately bransels: 68-78. (ring-dance 68: bransles: 70-78.)
83-84 *the small sporadic patches of fen and forest 68: the small sporadic patches of fen or forest 69-78.
87-88 numbering by fives, with no zero, worshipping a ju-ju General Mo, (a juju 68:)
90-91 hirsute witches who on winter nights fable them stories of fair-haired Elves 68-78. (who, on winter nights, 68: elves 68:)
92-93 whose magic made the mountain dam, Dwarf, cunning in craft, 68-78. (Of dwarves, 68:)
93-95 who smithied the treasure-hoards of tin-cans they flatten out for their hut roofs, 68-78.
(treasure hoards 68: tin cans 68: tin cans? 70: hut roofs.... 68:)
96-100 *‘nor choice they have nor change know, their fate ordained by fore-elders, the Oldest Ones, the wise spirits who through the mouths of masked wizards blessing give or blood demand. 69-78. (one stanza added)
101 *‘Still monied, immune, stands Megalopolis: 68-78. (*moneyed, 68:)
102-3 happy he who hopes for better, what awaits Her may well be worse....” (worse.” 68:)
104-6 Thus I was thinking at three a.m./in Mid-Manhattan till interrupted, cut short by a sharp voice: 68-78. (A.M. 68; 70-78. mid-Manhattan 68; 70: voice. 70-78.)
107-8 “What fun and games you find it to play/Jeremiah-cum-Juvenal: 68-78. (Jeremiah-cum-Juvenal. 68:)
109 Shame on you for your Schadenfreude.” 68-78. (Schadenfreude!” 68:)
111-12 Suppose I were. So what, if my words are true.” 68-78. (so what, 70-78.)
115 You both will feel better by breakfast time.” 68-78. (breakfast-time.’ 76, 78.)
Five Occasional Poems

Reaching my gate, a narrow


(Only the LM text begins each line with a capital letter, which the other versions have only where a sentence begins.)

1-3 Reaching my gate, a narrow/lane from the village/passes on into a wood:

(Reaching my gate, a narrow/lane from the village/passes on into a wood:

4-6 when I walk that way/it seems befitting to stop/and look through the fence

(when I walk that way/it seems befitting to stop/and look through the fence

11-13 *Categorised enemies/twenty years ago,/now next-door neighbours, 65-78.

(Categorised enemies/twenty years ago,/now next-door neighbours, 65-78.

15-16 *sharing a common ambit/and love of the Word, 65-78. (the word, 65:)

17-20 over a golden Kremser/had many a long/language on syntax, commas,/versification. 65-78. (Kremser 65:)

25-27 *who to Goebbels’offer of culture/countered—in Ruah lassen? 65-78.

(*Countered In Ruah lassen? 65: countered—in Ruah lassen? 70:)

31-33 What, had you ever heard of/Franz Jägerstätter,/the St Radegund peasant,

(St. Radegund peasant 65:)

51-53 Unmarked by me, unmourned for,/the hour of your death,/unhailed by you

(death 65:)

57-60 in a year/that changed our cosmos,/the annus mirabilis/when Parity fell.

(Cosmos, 65: The annus mirabilis 65:)

61-63 Already the realms that lost/were properly warm/and over-eating,

(overeating, 70:)

71 Today we smile at weddings 65-78. (To-day 65; 76, 78.)

73-75 since the Shadow/lifted, or rather/moved elsewhere: 65-78. (elsewhere, 65:)

75-78 never as yet/has Earth been without/her bad patch, some unplace with/jobs for torturers 65-78. (Never 65: torturers, 65:)

79-80 (In what bars are they welcome?/What girls marry them?), 65-78.

( them? 65:)

81-82 or her nutritive surface/at peace all over. 65-78. (over: 65:)

83-84 *No one, so far as we know,/Has ever been safe, 65:

No one, so far as we know,/has ever felt safe: 69-78.

85-88 and so, in secret regions,/good family men/keep eye, devoted as monks,/on apparatus 65-78. (And so in secret regions 65:)

92-94 the same/short-lived creatures re-utter/the same care-free songs, 65-78.

(carefree 70:)

96-98 from April’s/rapid augment of colour/till boisterous Fall, 65-78.
W. H. AUDEN'S REVISIONING PROCESS (VIII)

103-4 *Sichelbach tottles westward/to join the Perchling, 65-78.
(*the Perschling, 65; 78.)

107-8 *conscious of grander neighbours/to bow to, 65-78. (neighbors 70-78.)

111-12 *I would respect you also,/Neighbour and Colleague, 65-78.
(Neighbor 70-78. colleague, 65:)

(The London Magazine text has the following notes under the poem.)

Note: In Ruah lassen (Leave us alone). W’s reply, in Viennese dialect, when Goebbels asked: ‘Tell me, Professor, what could I do for the promotion and support of the arts in the East Mark?’

Dies alles ist furchtbar, hier nur Schweigen gemass (All this is dreadful, here only silence appropriate). Quotation from W’s poem Auf das Unabwendbare. den Abgrund zu nennen (to give a name to the Abyss). Quotation from W’s poem Kammermusik.

All folk-tales mean by ending


1 65-79. (folk tales 65; 70:)

5-7 two idiosyncrasies/who opt in this hawthorn month/to common your lives.
(your lives, 65:)

65-79.

8 A diffy undertaking, 65-79. (a diffy 65:)

9-11 for to us, whose dreams/are odourless, what is real/seems a bit smelly:
(to us whose 65: odorless, 65; 70-79.)

65-79.

12-14 strong nerves are an advantage,/an accurate wrist-watch too/can be a great help. 65-79. (advantage; 65: wrist-watch, too, 65: wristwatch too 70:)

20-21 those delights/they are purveyed for: 65-79. (for; 65:)

31-33 your choice/reminds us to thank/Mrs Nature 65-79. (Mrs. Nature 65; 70-79.)

33-35 for doing/(our ugly looks are our own)/the handsome by us. 65-79. (us: 65:)

36-37 *We are better built to last/than tigers, 65, 69; 79. (we 65:)
For we’re better built to last/than tigers, 70-78:

37-38 *our skins/don’t leak like the ciliates, 65-79. (the ciliates’, 70-79.)

39-40 even our ears can detect/quarter-tones, 65-79. (quarter tones, 65; 70:)

40-42 even our most/myopic have good enough/vision for courtship: 65-79.
(courtship, 65:)

45 that life should have got to us 65-79. (Life 65:)

50-51 *Wherefore, as Mudfords, Audens,/Seth-Smiths, Bonnerjees, 65-79.
(*Bonnerjees, 65:)

For we’re better built to last/than tigers, 70-78:
answer the One by Whom all/enantiomorphs/are superimposable,  
answer the One for Whom all/enantiomorphs/are super-posable, yet 69-79.

yet Who knows each particle/and its holy name. 65:  
Who numbers each particle/and its Proper Name. 69-79.

In our beginning

1-3 In our beginning/was a snuffling life without/sky or horizon, 66-78.  
(life, 66:)  
4-5 *among solids and not-theres,/over-big, too close 66:  
full of objects and not-theres,/too close, over-big, 69-78.  
15-17 *after we’ve learned from noting/the habits of stars/to annal births,  
beravements, 66-78. (*to annul 66:)  
23-26 *Whoever/is waiting for us/at ford or cross-roads cannot/be avoided now:  
(*cross-road 66:  crossroads 70:  now, 66:) 66-78.  
28-30 *whatever world/our eyes are destined/to look on last: 66:  
whatever/world we are destined/to look on last. 69-78.  
30-33 *It could be/a field of battle,/or a vista of terse lawns/and tantalised yews,  
(it 66:  *lawn 66:  tantalized 70:) 66-78.  
34-36 or a forgotten province/of sagging fences, weeds and pecker-wood saw-mills,  
(peckerwood 66:  sawmills, 70:) 66-78.  
40-41 But Then was also/an Age of Care: 66-78. (an age of care: 66:)  
43-44 *the scowl/of crag or cupboard 66:  
the frown/of crag or cupboard 69-78.  
45-48 no more to be laughed away/than a Cruel Fair,/wife-trouble, debts, or public/ 
crises 66-78. (debts or 66:)  
56-58 a time to wear odd clothing,/behave with panache/and talk nonsense as I  
did, 66-78. (nonsense, 66:)  
64-65 *to voice our irreverent/amoebean song. 66-78. (amoebean 66; 70:)  
69-71 (what reason/had I to suppose/Exeter worth a visit?): 66-78.  
(What 70-78.)  
72-75 Now of the body/I brashly came to my first/tutorial in/not a molecule  
remains, 66-78. (now 66; 70-78.)  
79-81 This Nevill, I knew,/was not a Heldentenor/of the lecture-hall, 66-78.  
(the lecture hall, 70:)  
82-83 not a disciple-hunting/Socratic bully, 66-78.  
(socratic 66:)
W. H. AUDEN'S REVISIONING PROCESS (VIII)

84-86 not a celibate glutton/averse to pupils/as to mal-edited texts, 66-78.
(glutton, 66: maledited 66:)

89-91 and as a Privy/Councillor more deserving/of our vail and verge. 66-78.
(a privy/councillor 66: verge: 66:)

92-94 Endowed with the charm/of your Irish provenance/but no proper-false,
(endowed 66:)

95-97 you countenanced all species,/the alphas, the bone-/idle, 66-78.
(the bone-/idle, 70-78.)

105-7 *Among the ageing/too large a group disappoint/by looking a mess, 66-78.
(the aging 70:)

111-12 *turn lipless vipers/or red-nosed sterterous bores, 66-78.
(stertorous 66; 70-78.)

118-20 *a life lived droitly,/with a licence from now on/for any conduct 66-78.
(a license 70-78.)

123-25 may sunbeams, falling across/your breakfast-table,/forecast new agreeable
hours 66-78. (breakfast table, 70:)

126-27 *to paint in, re-thumb/a choice author, 66:
to paint in, re-thumb/a pet author, 69-78. (rethumb 70:)

Liebe Frau Emma,


5-6 Oh, how could you go and die,//as if you didn't know 68-78. (oh, 70-78.)

7-8 that in a permissive age,/so rife with envy, 68-78. (age 70-78.)

22-24 *you and your brother Josef,/Sudetendeutschen/made homeless paupers
(*Sudetendeutsche 70-78.)

24-25 when Czechs/got their turn to be brutal: 68-78. (brutal. 68:)

26-28 *but catastrophe/had failed to modernise you,/Child of the Old World,
(But 68: modernize 68; 70-78. child 68:)

34-35 *well tendered and observed by/loyal but critical eyes. 68 ; 70-78.
well tended and observed by/loyal but critical eyes. 69:

44-45 Greeks, in your censure, were rogues,/all teenagers delinquent. 68-78.
(teen-agers 68; 70-78.)

57-58 how enchanting your shy grin,/your soft cat-language: 68-78.
(cat language: 68:)

68-69 *astonished at how/living they are to recall: 68:
astonished at how/vivid they are to recall: 69-78.
70 *Du guter, schlaf in Ruhe. 68: Du gute, schlaf in Ruhe. 69-78.

The concluded gardens of personal liking


(Only the New York Review of Books text has a capital letter at the head of lines. The other versions have one only where sentences begin.)

2-3 are enchanted habitats/where real toads may catch imaginary flies 67-78.

(habitats,/Where 67: flies, 67:)

4-5 and the climate will accomodate the tiger/and the polar-bear. 67-78.

(the polar bear. 70:)

6-7 So in the middle of yours (where it is human/to sit) we see you sitting

( So, 67: To sit), 67: sitting, 67:)

12-13 your jerboa, erect on/his Chippendale claw, 67-78. (jerboa 67:)

16-17 cope with what surprises them and greet the stranger/in a mid-western accent, 67-78. (Mid-Western 67: Midwestern 70:)

18-19 the unelephantine creature/who is certainly here to worship 67-78.

(creature,/Who 67:)

21-23 *he will name a cat/Peter, a new car Edsel,/emphasise his own birthday

(Emphasize 67: emphasize 70-78.)

24-25 as today we stress your name,/Miss Marianne Moore 67-78.

(to-day 67; 76, 78. Moore, 67:)

Into what fictive realms can imagination


1 *69-78. *Into what fictive worlds can imagination NY:

2-4 Not the courts of/Grand Opera, that galerie/of lunatics, NY-78.

(the Courts NY:)

6 nor the wards of Buffa, either, NY-78. (the Wards of Buffa, NY:)

8-9 by the crude surgery of a//practical joke. NY-78. (Practical Joke. NY:)

21-22 who wry from crowds, traffic-noises,/blue-stockings and millionaires. NY-78.

(bluestockings 70:)

22-23 Your tastes run to/small dinner-parties, small rooms, NY-78.

(dinner parties, 70:)

25-26 neither truckle nor thrasonical but softly/certain NY-78.

(thrasonical, NY:)

42-43 museum-basements displaying feudal armor/or old coins: NY-78.

(museum basements 70:)

217
57-58  *who won't stop to/amend, NY, 69:  who don't ever/amend, 70-78.
62-64  look at/this world with a happy eye/but from a sober perspective.” NY-78.
(eye, NY: )

He thanks God daily

(This consists of a sequence of untitled 19 short poems, of which all except three are
three-line pieces with 17 syllables. In CP five 3-line poems have been added as
‘ADDENDA’. The numerals in parentheses preceding line-numbers show the order
of the poems in the CWW text. The Quest text begins each line with a capital
letter. Q stands for the Quest text reading below.)
(5) 2-3 in his feudal day-dream no/courage is needed, 69-78. (daydream 70: )
(8) 1-3 except/about his knowledge of metre/and his friends. Q-78.
(metre, 70-78.)
(9) 1-3 *Praise? Unimportant./But rather jolly to think of/While falling asleep.
(Q : )

(11) 1-3 He envies those who have learned,/when reading newspapers,/how to fold
them. Q-78. (*newspapers. 70: )
(12) 1-3 He wishes he were/Konrad Lorenz and had written/Firbank’s novels.
(Firbank’s 70-78.) 69-78.
(13) 1-3 *When he comes to a crossing,/He expects the lights/To turn green for
him. Q:
Reaching a cross-roads,/he expects the traffic-lights/to turn green for him.
(a crossroads, 70: traffic lights 70: ) 69-78.
(14) 1-3 So obsessive a ritualist/a pleasant surprise/makes him cross. Q-78.
(a ritualist, Q: )
(16) 1-3 *He thanks his Maker who gave him/The nose to know/What and Whom
to read next. Q:
His guardian-angel/has always told him/What and Whom to read next.
(guardian angel 70: ) 69-78.
(17) 1-3 Conscious of his good-luck,/he wonders why so few/people kill themselves.
(good luck, 70: ) Q-78.
(19) 1-2 On waking, he thinks: “Precious, Precious Me! Q-78. (waking Q: )

On a mid-December day,

(Only the Encounter text begins each line with a capital letter.)
3-6  I abruptly/felt under fingers/thirty years younger the rim/of a steering wheel,
(a steering-wheel, 76, 78.) 65-78.
9-10 as passenger beside me/You as then you were. 65-78. (You 69-78.)

14-15 *And geese ran screaming/As we missed them by inches, 65: and geese fled screaming/as we missed them by inches, 69-78.

16-18 making a bee-line/for mountains gradually/enlarging eastward, 65-78.
(a beeline 70:)

22-24 we were served broiled trout/and a rank cheese: for a while/we talked by the fire, 65-78. (cheese. For 65:)

31-32 Since then, other enchantments/have blazed and faded, 65-78. (then 65:)

34-36 *and War made ugly/an uncountable number/of unknown neighbours, 65-78. (*an unaccountable number 69: neighbours 65: neighbors, 70-78.)

37 precious as us to themselves: 65-78. (themselves, 65:)

39-40 and the Earth/can still astonish. 65-78. (the earth 65:)


45-46 It's social enough with real/faces and landscapes 65-78.
(landscapes, 65:)

47-48 *For whose open countenance/I at least can learn 65: for whose friendly countenance/I at least can learn 69-78.

I could draw its map by heart,

4-5 *name every height,/small burn and lonely sheiling, 65-78.
(*shieling, 65, 66; 70:)

6-8 *but nameless to me,/faceless as heather or grouse,/are those who live there,
(*for frouse, 66: there. 65, 66:)

9 *its dead too vague for judgement, 65-78. (Its 65, 66: judgment, 70:)

15-16 as the lodes all petered out/in the Jew Limestone. 65-78.
(limestone. 65:)

21-22 with no one about, no chance/of buttering bread, 65-78. (bread: 65, 66:)

25-26 *Any musical future/is unlikely. 65:
Any musical future/is most unlikely. 66-78.

27 Industry wants Cheap Power, 65-78. (cheap power, 65, 66:)

30-31 Mr Pleasure pays/for surf-riding, claret, sex: 65-78. (Mr. 66; 70-78.)

36-38 still less of a New/Jerusalem but, for one,/convinced he will die, 65-78.
(Jerusalem, but for one 65: Jerusalem but, for one 66:)

39-40 more comely, more credible/than either day-dream. 65-78. (daydream. 70:)

41-44 How but with some real focus/of desolation/could I, by analogy, imagine a Love 65-78. (How, 70-78. a love 65, 66; 70-76:)

45-47 however often smeared,/shrugged at, abandoned/by a frivolous worldling,
(Shrugged 70:)

49-50 more comely, more credible/than either day-dream. 65-78. (daydream. 70:)

51-52 How but with some real focus/of desolation/could I, by analogy, imagine a Love 65-78. (How, 70-78. a love 65, 66; 70-76:)

53-54 more comely, more credible/than either day-dream. 65-78. (daydream. 70:)

55-56 How but with some real focus/of desolation/could I, by analogy, imagine a Love 65-78. (How, 70-78. a love 65, 66; 70-76:)

57-58 however often smeared,/shrugged at, abandoned/by a frivolous worldling,
(Shrugged 70:)

61-62 *name every height,/small burn and lonely sheiling, 65-78.
(*shieling, 65, 66; 70:)

63-64 *but nameless to me,/faceless as heather or grouse,/are those who live there,
(*for frouse, 66: there. 65, 66:)

65-66 *its dead too vague for judgement, 65-78. (Its 65, 66: judgment, 70:)

67-68 as the lodes all petered out/in the Jew Limestone. 65-78.
(limestone. 65:)

71-72 with no one about, no chance/of buttering bread, 65-78. (bread: 65, 66:)

75-76 *Any musical future/is unlikely. 65:
Any musical future/is most unlikely. 66-78.
W. H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (VIII)

Nose, I am free

[Quest, Spring 1967, 'Metaphor'; CWW 1969/1970; CP, p. 540, one of the 'Shorts I']

2-3 *To turn up or thumb/At my neighbour, 67-78. (neighbor, 67; 70-78.)

4-8 *it's you/Also through whom/For my liberties he/With like arrogance may/
Make me pay. 67:

it's You,/Also, through Whom/For my liberties he/With like insolence may/
Make me pay. 69-78. (it's You/Also, 76, 78.)

Trying to understand the words


3-4 *I recognise in what I hear/Noises that betoken fear. 69-78. (recognize 70-78.)

Two Songs

Little fellow, you're amusing.

[CWW 1969/1970, 'I/Song of the Ogres'; CP]

17-18 *Well, you've asked for it all right:/On guard! 69:

Well, you've asked for it alright:/On guard! 70-78.

Ever since observation taught me temptation


12 I have only to whisper: "You're sick!" 69-78. (sick! 70-78.)

23-24 Aren't you the Chairman of/Ego, Inc? 69-78. (Inc.? 70-78.)

28-29 *it's known/That Honour is hypocrisy, 69-78. (Honor 70-78.)

39-40 There's a difference of dimension be-/tween the rest and you. 69-78.

(be-/tween 70-78.)

51-52 *Till you find that you're hooked, your goose is cooked,/And you're only a
cypher of Hell's. 69-78. (a cipher 70-78.)

Except where blast-furnaces and generating-stations


1 68-79. (generating stations 68:)

2-3 have inserted their sharp profiles/or a Thru-Way slashes 68-79.

(profiles, 68; 70-78: Thru-way 68: Thruway 70:)

7 *nor have her dishes lost their flavour 68-79. (flavor 68; 70-79.)

11 *Only to the ear is it obvious something drastic has happened, 68:

Only to the ear is it patent something drastic has happened, 69-79.

15 but that was easy.) 68-79. ( easy), 70-78:)

17 for a bureaucrat the Sitz-Fleisch: 68-79.

(the Sitzfleisch: 70: the Sitzfleisch: 76, 78: the Sitz-Fleisch: 79.)
or sang for pennies, or travelled on foot. 68-79. (traveled 68; 70-78:)
but today's audience would boo my ballads: 68-79. (to-day's 76, 78:)
it calls for Songs of Protest,/and wants its bawdry straight 68-79.
(Protest 68; 70-78:)
English foot-wear, nylon hose,/Or transistor radios; 68-79. (footwear, 70:)
*I can invent/Any official document,/Work-Permits, Driving-Licences, 68-79.
(Work Permits, 70: Driving-Licenses, 68; 76, 78: Driving Licenses, 70:)
*for the thought of the hangman's noose/to make me boggle. 68-79.
(*oggle. 68; 70-79.)
*all the faces I see about me 68; 70-78. all the faces I see around me 69; 79.
I am standing on high ground/looking out westward 68-79.
(ground, 68; 70-78:)
*over/a plain well-managed by Jaguar farmers. 68:
over/a plain, run smoothly by Jaguar farmers. 69-79. (a plain 70-78:)
*In the enloignment,/a-glitter in the whelking sun, 68-79.
(*the eloignment, 70-79.)
*At its base I see,/black, shaped like a bell-tent,/the mouth of a cave
(*black-shaped 68: ) 68-79.
"Well, will that be so shaming?",/I ask when awake. 68-79.
(shaming?" 68; 70: shaming? 76, 78:)

Marginalia
(This sequence of short poems will be examined in the next article.)

Eight Songs from Mother Courage (German text by Berthold Brecht: /Music by Paul Dessau)
(The examination of these translations is omitted because they are not included in the Collected Poems.)

Spring-time, Summer and Fall: days to behold a world
[Confrontation, Spring 1969, 'In Due Season*; CWW 1969/1970; CP]
1 69-78. (Springtime, 70:)
2-3 *where flowers think/Theirs concretely in scent-colours 69-78.
(scent-colors 70-78:)
7-8 in May/Bird-babes still in the egg click to each other Hatch!; 69-78.
(Hatch!; 70:)
18 Till, transmuted they take part in a human tale. 69-78.
(transmuted, 70-78.)
On High Feast-Days they were given a public airing:

2 *Their shoulder-length blonde hair combed and braided, 69-78. (blond 70-78.)
6 Clovis, Theodoric, Dagobert, Childeric, 69-78. (Théodoric, 70-78.)
11 *Every one knew, of course, it was a staged play, 69-78. (Everyone 70-78.)
12 *Every one knew where the real power lay, 69-78. (Everyone 70-78.)

Unbiased at least he was when he arrived on his mission,

1 *66-78. (*Unbiased 70-78.)
2 Having never set eyes on this land he was called to partition 66-78.
(partition. 66 :)
3-4 *Between two peoples fanatically at odds,
With their different diets and incompatible gods. 69-78.
(The Atlantic Monthly text lacks these two lines, and has instead a stanza break.)

5-6 *“Time,” he was briefed in London, “is short. It’s too late
For compromises, concessions, rational debate; 66: (II. 3-4)
“Time,” they had briefed him in London, “is short. It’s too late
For mutual reconciliation or rational debate: 69-78.

7 *There isn’t a chance of peace through negotiation:
The only hope now lies in regional segregation. 66: (II. 5-6)
The only solution now lies in separation. 69-78.

8-12 *We cannot help. What with one thing and another,
The Viceroy feels you shouldn’t see much of each other.
Four judges, representing the parties interested,
Will advise, but in you alone is authority invested.” 66: (II. 7-10)
The Viceroy thinks, as you will see from his letter,
That the less you are seen in his company the better,
So we’ve arranged to provide you with other accommodation.
We can give you four judges, two Moslem and two Hindu,
To consult with, but the final decision must rest with you.” 69-78.

13-14 *Shut up in an ugly mansion, with police night and day
Patrolling the garden to keep assassins away, 66: (II. 11-12)
Shut up in a lonely mansion, with police night and day
Patrolling the gardens to keep assassins away, 69-78.

15-16 *He got down to his job, to settling the political fate/Of millions. 66:
(II. 13-14)
He got down to work, to the task of settling the fate/Of millions. 69-78.

16-17 *The available maps were all out of date./The census returns almost certainly incorrect, 66: (II. 14-15)
The maps at his disposal were out of date/And the Census Returns almost certainly incorrect, 69-78.

But there was no time to revise them, no time to inspect Contested areas himself. It was frightfully hot, 66: (II. 16-17)
But there was no time to check them, no time to inspect Contested areas. The weather was frightfully hot, 69-78.

*But in seven weeks he had carried out his orders, Defined, for better or worse, their future borders. 66: (II. 19-20)
But in seven weeks it was done, the frontiers decided, A continent for better or worse divided. 69-78.

*where he quickly forgot/The case as a lawyer must: 66: (II. 21-22)
where he quickly forgot/The case, as a good lawyer must. 69-78.

*return he would not,/Afraid, as he told his club, that he might be shot. 66: (II. 22-23)

Return he would not,/Afraid, as he told his Club, that he might get shot. 69-78.

The Ogre does what ogres can,
1 68-79. (The ogre 68;)
2 Deeds quite impossible for Man, 68-79. (for man, 68;)
3-4 But one prize is beyond his reach,/The Ogre cannot master Speech: 68-79.
(reach: 68: The ogre 68: Speech. 68; 70-78:)
5 *Across a subjugated plain, 68: About a subjugated plain, 69-79.
7 *The ogre strolls with hands on hips, 68:
The Ogre stalks with hands on hips, 69-79.

Thumping old tunes give a voice to its whereabouts
2-3 *long before one can see the dazzling archway/of coloured lights, 66-79.
(colored 66; 70-79.)
6-8 here jeopardy,/panic, shock, are dispensed in measured doses/by fool-proof engines. 66-79. (shock 66: foolproof 66; 70: engines 76:)
9-10 packed tightly together/on Roller-Coaster or Ferris-Wheel, 66-79.
(roller coaster or ferris wheel, 66: Roller Coaster or Ferris wheel, 70:)
13-14 Soon the Roundabout ends the clumsy conflict/of Right and Left: 66-79.
(the roundabout 66:)
17-18 Mopped and mowed at, as their train worms through a tunnel,/by ancestral spooks, 66-79. (a tunnel. 70;)
31-32 *games that call for patience, foresight, manoeuvre, / like war, like marriage.

(Maneuver, 66; 70:)

Out of a bellicose fore-time, thundering


(Epigraph) Our body is a moulded river/Novalis 66-79.

(—Novalis 66: NOVALIS 70-78:)

18-19 *robber-castle, tow-rope portage-way country, 66:


21-22 *Disembogueing from foothills, now in hushed meanders, now in riffling braids,

(Disemboguing 70-78: foot-hills, 66:)


(chateau-and-ciderpress 66:)

28 *it changes colour. 66-79. (Color. 66; 70-79.)

29 *Polluted, bridged by girders, banked with concrete, 66:


31-32 ticker-tape, taxi, brothel, foot-lights country, à la mode always. 66-79.

(footlights 66: à-la-mode 66: à-la-mode 70-78:)

34 *turbid with pulverised wastemantle, 66-79. (Pulverized 66; 70-79.)

34-36 on through/flatter, duller, hotter, cotton-gin country/it scours, 66-79.

(country, 66:)

40-41 *wearies to its final//act of surrender, effacement, atonement 66-79.

(to its final//acts 76:)

42-43 in a huge amorphous aggregate, no cuddled/attractive child ever dreamed of,

(aggregate 66; 76-79.)
W.H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS (XI) :
City Without Walls and Other Poems (1969/1970)-(2)

Y. S. YAMADA*
(Received on Oct. 14, 1989)

INTRODUCTORY NOTES
This list records the variant readings found between the versions of the latter half of the CWW poems, excepting the "Marginalia" poems which should have been, but could not be, examined in the list published in February, 1984. I am, as always, grateful to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University for his kind help with the photocopies of the unavailable printings of the CWW poems.

October 14, 1989 Y. S. Y.

Talented creatures, on the defensive because
[Encounter, September 1966, "Insignificant Elephants"; CWW 1969/1970; CP 76/78]

Epigraph*: 
Our Lord Jesus Christ, although he was the greatest, was made the most/Insignificant of All the Elephants. (The Bestiary) 66:

Although He was the greatest, Our Lord Jesus Christ was made/the Most Insignificant of all the Elephants./The Bestiary 69-78. (The Bestiary 70-78.)
(Only in the Encounter text each line begins with a capital letter.)

1-2 on the defensive because/Glory, Real Estate, Girls, are not in Virtue's gift, 66-78. (Girls 66:)

5-6 give story-tellers the nudge to invent that cooks/get from slightly-tainted meat. (storytellers 70: slightly tainted 66: 66-78.

8-10 are only game for reporters, new, like Auschwitz,/Dickens could not have made up// nor Halley have predicted: 66-78. (Auschwitz,/ 66: Dickens 66: Halley 66:)

10-12 genetic typos/bring forth infant prodigies, imbeciles, midgets,/but no Prime Numbers, no Saints. 66-78. (no prime-numbers, no saints. 66:)

13-15 Nor would a snapshot reveal a halo: they hide/their incandescence like tasty moths who mimic/unpalatable cousins. 66-78. (incandescence, 66:)

* Faculty of Education, Iwate University, Ueda, Morioka 020.
16* Wild converts, at sea in a collapsing culture, 66:
   Wild converts, at sea on a collapsing culture, 69–78.
17–18 concocted one or two viable folk-tales—George/cuts a dash with his Dragon—
   (folk tales— 70:)
   66–78.
19* But a deal of bosh, magical hanky-panky 66:
   but a deal of bosh, semi-gnostic compost-heaps 69–78. (bosh 70:)
23 nor an Uncumber for English wives to invoke 66–78. (Nor 66:)
24* Against troublesome husbands. 66:
   against lickerous husbands. 69–78.
25* Anecdotes, even from those dark years, have reached us 66:
   Some anecdotes, even from those dark years, have reached us 69–78.
29–30 and dreaming of a shepherd/who consoled her with cream-cheese. 66–78.
   (cream cheese. 70–78.)
31 With all our flair for research we are still non-plussed: 66–78.
   (research, 66: nonplussed: 70–78.)
34 A hard life, often a hard death, and side-effects 66–78. (side effects 70:)
35–36* Which a humanist finds hard to stomach, are signs/That divulge nothing. 66:
   that a humanist finds hard to stomach, are signs/which divulge nothing. 69–78.
37–38* all who met them speak/of a Joy 66, 69; 78. (Of a joy 66:)
   all who met them speak/of joy 70–76:
40–41 If their hunch was not mistaken, it would explain/why there is something fishy
   about a High Style 66–78. (a high style 66:)
43–45* Why we add the embarrassing prefix Super——/To a natural life that nothing
   prevents us/Living except our natures. 66:
   why we add the embarrassing prefix super——/to a natural life which nothing prevents
   us/living except our natures. 69–78.

The High Priests of telescopes and cyclotrons
CP 76/78]
5–7 discoveries which, couched in the elegant/euphemisms of algebra, look innocent/
   harmless enough but, 68–78. (enough, but 68:)
9–10 *will not be received with hilarity/by gardeners or house-wives: 68:
   will give no cause for hilarity/to gardeners and house-wives: 69:
   will give no cause for hilarity/to gardeners or housewives: 70–78.
   (house-wives: 76, 78.)
17–18 How trite, though, our fears, beside the miracle/that we’re here to shiver, 68–78.
   (fears 68; 70–78.)
21–22 with exactly the right ingredients/to start and to cocker Life, 68–78. (life, 70:)
22–24 that heavenly/freak for whose manage we shall have to/give account at the
Judgement, 68-78. (*Judgment, 70:*)

24-26 our Middle-//Earth, where Sun-Father to all appearances/moves by day from orient to occident, 68-78. (Middle-//Earth, 68; 76, 78.
Sun-Father, to all appearances, 68: occident 68:)

27-28 and his light is felt as a friendly/presence not a photonic bombardment, 68-78. (presence, 68:

29-30 where all visibles do have a definite/outline they stick to, 68-78. (stick to 68:)

30-31 *and are undoubtedly/at rest or on motion, 68:
and are undoubtedly/at rest or in motion, 69-78.

31-32 where lovers/recognise each other by their surface, 68-78.
(*recognize 68; 70-78.)

35-37 This, whatever micro-//biology may think, is the world we//really live in 68-78.
(micro-//biology 76, 78.)

41-42 how, discarding rhythm, punctuation, metaphor,/it sinks into a drivelling monologue, 68-78. (*driveling 70:)

51 *but blessed is the City which thanks You 68:
but blessed is the City that thanks you 69-78.

52 for giving us games and grammar and metres. 68-78.
(metres, 68: *meters. 70:)

53-54 *By whose grace, also, every gathering/of two or three in confident amity/repeats
the pentecostal marvel, 68-78.
(by whose grace also 68: *or two or three 68:)

57-59 In this world our colossal immodesty/has plundered and poisoned, it is possible/
You still might save us, who by now have/learned this: 68-78.
(poisoned 68:)

60-62 *that scientists, to be lucky,//must remind us to take all they say as a/tall story,
that scientists to be truthful//must remind us to take all they say as a/tall story,
(scientists, to be truthful, 70-78.)

62-63 *that abhorred in the Heav'ns are/self-proclaimed poets 68:
that abhorred in the Heav'ns are all/self-proclaimed poets 69-78.

FOUR COMMISSIONED TEXTS
(Only the Random House edition texts give the names of parts in italics, while all the other texts give them in small capitals. And only the Faber & Faber edition texts give them separately above the lines.)

FIRST VOICE / Excellence is a gift: among mankind
Note to the text:

(Commentary for a film, directed by Donald Owen and produced by the National Film Board of Canada.) 69-78. (The National 70-78. of Canada) 76, 78.)

14* Average distance run per week: two hundred miles. 69:

   Average distance run per week: one hundred miles. 70-78.

15-18 All visible visibly/Moving things/Spin or swing/One of the two, 69-78.

   (swing, 70-78.)

25-26 In orbit go/Round an endless track. 69-78. (track: 70-78.)

27-30 So, everywhere, every/Creature disporting/Itself according/To the law of its making 69-78 (making, 70-78.)

31-34 In the rivals’ dance/Of a balanced pair,/Or the ring-dance/Round a common centre (*center, 70: centre, 76, 78.) 69-78.

52 Lt Max Truex of the United States Navy in the dark trunks, 69-78. (Lt. 70-78.)

53 Laszlo Tabori, late of Hungary in the light trunks, 69-78. (Hungary, 70-78.)

70-72 Who, greedy for victory, grits his teeth,/Frowns fiercely before contests,/And no neighbour. 69-78. (*neighbor, 70-78.)

76-78 FIRST VOICE/Pleasing to the ear/Are clapping crowds, but the cold stop-watch/Tells the truth. 69-78. (stop watch/ 70:)

85 The runners are maintaining a gruelling pace. 69-78. (*grueling 70-78.)

87-79 KIDD first/TABORI second/TRUEX third. 69:

   KIDD first/TABORI second/TRUEX third. 70-78.

RECIPIEATIVE/Without arms or charm of culture,


(66 stands for the reading of the Christian Century text.)

Note*:

Anthem for the Feast-Day of Any Apostle/Music by Sir William Walton/(for Cuthbert Simpson) 66:

   (Anthem for the Feast of any Apostle. Music by Sir William Walton)/(for Cuthbert Simpson) 69, 70: (for CUTHBERT SIMPSON 70:)


I (66-70: 1 76, 78.)

1* 69-78. *Without arms or charm of culture, 66: (lacking “RECIPIEATIVE”)

2-3* Persons of no importance/From an unimportant province, 66:

   Unimportant persons/From an unimportant Province, 69-78.

CHORUS (66 lacks this word), first paragraph, third sentence:

   *Lives long dead were re--quickenen; 66:

   Dead souls were quickened to life; 69-78.
CHORUS, second paragraph, first sentence:
Then the Dark Lord, adored by this world, perceived the threat of the Light to his might.
(Then the Dark Lord adored by this world 66: of the light 70-78.) 66-78.

II (66-70: 2 76, 78.)

1* SOLO / O Lord, my God/Though I forsake Thee,/Forsake me not, 66-78.
(O Lord, 66: [lacking “SOLO”] my God,/ 66; 70-78.)

4-5 But guide me as I walk/Through the Valley of Mistrust, 66-78.
(the valley of mistrust, 66:)

8-9 Thou who declared unto Moses/I SHALL BE THERE. 66-78.
(Moses: 66: I shall be there. 66: I SHALL BE THERE. 70-78.)

III (66-70: 3 76, 78.)

CHORUS (lacking in 66), (II. 2 and 3, transposed in the 66 text.)

2 Excellent still in their splendour are the antique statues: but can do neither good nor evil. 66-78. (*in their splendor 66; 70-78.)

3 Beautiful still are the starry heavens: but our Fate is not written there. 66-78.
(our fate 66:)

4/5 (no stanza break) 66: (stanza break) 69-78.

5* Twelve as the winds and the months are those who taught us these things: 66:
	Twelve as the winds and months are those who taught us these things: 69-78.

6 Envisaging each in an oval glory, let us praise them all with a merry noise. 66-78.
(envisaging 66:)

SPEAKER/In the First Age the frogs dwelt

Note attached to the title:

Text, after Aesop, for music /by Hans Werner Henze 68:
(Text after Aesop: Music by Hans Werner Henze) 69-78. (Aesop. 70-78.)

I (68-70: 1 76, 78.)

2-3* they paddled about,/Flies they caught and fat they grew, 68:
	they paddled about,/Flies they caught and fat grew. 69-78.

7* The days went by in unbroken calm: 68: 70-78.
	The days went by in an unbroken calm: 69:

8-9 Bored they grew, ungrateful for/Their good-luck, began to murmur. 68-78.
(good luck, 70-78.)

10* CHORUS Higgledy-piggledy, 68: CHORUS / Higgledy-Piggledy, 69-78.

11-13 What our society/Needs is more discipline,/Form and degree: 68:
	What our Society/Needs is more Discipline,/Form and Degree. 69-78.

14-17 Nobody wants to live/Anachronistically :/Lions have a Hierarchy,/Why shouldn’t we? 68-78. (Anachronistically, 68: a hierarchy,/ 68:)

229
To mighty Jove on his jewelled throne/Went the Frog-Folk, the foolish people:
(chorused 70-78. the Frog Folk, 68:)

Graciously grant the petition we bring.
(68-78."

We want a Monarchy,/Give us a King!
(a monarchy./ 68:"

From the edge of their pond in awe they gazed,/The Frog-Folk, the foolish people:
(The Frog Folk, 68:"

It's not a man. It's not a frog./Why, it's nothing but a rotten old log!
(Why! It's"

Silly stump, watch me jump!/Tee-hee-hee, you can't catch me!
(stump! Watch "You"

Boo to you! Boo! Boo! 68: / Boo to you! Boo! Boo! Boo! 69-78.

words they awaited, but no words came.
(68-70:

It's not a man. It's not a frog./Why, it's nothing but a rotten old log!
(Why! It's"

Silly stump, watch me jump!/Tee-hee-hee, you can't catch me!
(stump! Watch "You"

What we demand is a Plenipotentiary/Sovereign not an inanimate log. 68-78.
(Sovereign, 68; 70-78. inanimate 76, 78."

Down on their pond, plunging from above, 68:
(speaker 68:"

Onto their pond from the heavens above, 70-78. (speaker 76, 78.)

Cruel-beaked, a crane alighted./Fierce, ravenous, a frog-eater. 68-78.
(alighted, 68:"

Doom was upon them, Dread seized/The Frog-Folk, the foolish people:/They tried to escape. It was too late. 68-78.
(them ; dread 68: The Frog Folk, 68: escape ; it 68:)

No! Woe! O! O... 68:

The gods shrug their shoulders and say: 68-78.
'To hell with them!' 68: / —To Hell with them. 69-78.
(68-70: 2 76, 78.)

When first had no second, before Time was, 68-78.
(First 68: Second, 68:"

Dun must you be, not dainty to behold,/For your gain, though, I grace you with the gift of song: 68-78. (behold: 68: song; 68:"

Well shall you warble, as welcome to the ear/As the lively lark or loud nightingale./
Go in peace. 68-78. (Go in peace! 68.)

8* SPEAKER  Gladly they went, 68: SPEAKER / Gaily they went, 69-78.

9 And daily at dawn with dulcet voices 68-78.

10* Tooted in the trees a tuneful madrigal. 68:

Tooted in the tree-tops a tuneful madrigal. 69-78.

11 CHORUS / Now, glorious in the East, the day is breaking: 68-78.

(Now 68: East 68:)

12 Creatures of field and forest, 68-78. (forest 68:)

12* from your sleep awakening, 68: from your sleep awaking, 69-78.

17 And each in each full recognition finding 68-78. (finding, 68: 70-78.)

19 Your several notes not harsh nor interfering, 68-78. (interfering. 68:)

23-24 A stand of horses, stallions and mares, Whinneying and neighing as their wont in Spring is. 68-78. (*Whinnying 70-78.)

25* CHORUS  How strange! How astounding! What astonishing sounds! 68:

CHORUS / How strange! How astonishing! What astonishing sounds! 69-78.

26 Never have we heard such noises as these. 68-78. (these! 68:)

27* It's so... so... so... so IT! 68:

It's so... so... so... so... so IT! 69-78.

28* How far out! What a break through!/How new! How new! We must be too! 68:

How new, How new! We must be too. What a break-through! 69-78.

30 Let's be chic and electronic. 68-78. (electronic! 68:)

32* Up with Non-Music and Sound-Event! 68:

Up with non-music, the Sound-Event! 69-78.

33 Arias are out and neighing is in: 68-78. (in. 68:)

34 Hurrah for horses! Let us begin. 68-78. (begin! 68:)

36* Their efforts at aggiornamento ended in fiasco. 68-78. (*aggiornamento 70-78.)

37* CHORUS  Kra! Kra! Kra! Kra! Kra! 68:

CHORUS / CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! 69; 76, 78.

Chorus CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! 70:

III (68-70: 3 76, 78.)

1 SPEAKER / A ship put to sea, sailed out of harbour 68-78. (*harbor 70-78.)

5-6 BASS SOLO / Wild will be tonight/With a gurling gale and great waves. 68-78.

(to-night 68; 76, 78.)

7 To your storm stations! Stand by! 68-78. (stations. 68:)

8* Ah! Captain, Captain, tell us the truth! 68:

O Captain, Captain, tell us the truth! 69-78.

12 CHORUS / Ah! What shall we do? The ship is about to founder, 68-78.

(Ah: What 70:)

13 Overwhelmed by the waves that so wildly surround her. 68-78. (her: 68:)

14 Neptune at our sins is righteously offended: 68-78. (offended, 68:)

III (68-70: 3 76, 78.)
16 Neptune, Neptune, we confess it sadly, 68:
   Neptune, Neptune, forgive us! We confess it sadly, 69-78.
17 We have neglected Thy worship and acted very badly. 68-78. (badly: 68:)
18* Have mercy, have mercy! Be our Saviour, 68:
   Forgive us! Have mercy, have mercy, and be our Saviour, 69-78.
19 And for ever after we will alter our behaviour. 68-78. (*behavior. 70-78.)
20 Neptune, thou Strong One, stop this outrageous welter, 68-78.
   (Thou 68: welter 68:)
21* And waft us safely into shelter: 68:
   Restrain the wind and waft us safely into shelter: 69-78.
22* Bulls we will bring to Thy altar and incense offer, 68:
   Bulls we will bring to Thine altar and incense offer, 69-78.
23* With treasures of great price fill up Thy temple's coffer. 68:
   With treasures of great price fill up Thy temple coffer. 69:
   With treasures of great pride fill up Thy temple coffer. 70-78.
27 We knew He was joking, not serious: 68-78. (serious! 68:)
37-38 Come from afar in his motor-car,/Eager to show devotion, 68-78.
   (motorcar,/ 70-78.)
39-40 Looking so cute in his Sunday Suit,/And smelling of shaving-lotion. 68-78.
   (Sunday suit, 68: /and 70: shaving lotion. 70:)
43-44 Blushing now, to the Bridegroom's bow/She answers with a curtsey. 68-78:
   (bridegroom's 68:)
45* SEMI-CHORUS OF BOYS 68: BOYS SEMI-CHORUS 69: Boys Semi-Chorus 70:
   BOYS' SEMI-CHORUS 76, 78.
45-46 Kiss her once, kiss her twice,/Bring her orchids on a salver, 68-78.
   (salver: 68:)
49* SEMI-CHORUS OF GIRLS 68: GIRLS SEMI-CHORUS 69: Girls Semi-Chorus 70:
   GIRLS' SEMI-CHORUS 76, 78.
49-50* Feed the brute with eggs and fruit,/Keep him clean and tidy, 68, 69; 78.
   (tidy: 68:)
   Feed the brute eggs and fruit,/Keep him clean and tidy, 70, 76:
53* We wish you health, we wish you wealth, 68: (lacking the word “CHORUS”)
   CHORUS / We wish you health, we wish you wealth, 69-78.
   (Two stanzas, eight lines, beginning with this line read as if they were part of the
   SEMI-CHORUS OF GIRLS in the London Magazine text.)
54 And seven smiling children, 68-78. (children: 68:)
55-56 Silver-bright be every night,/And every day be golden. 68-78.
   (Silver bright 68:)
59* Blue is the sky, bright is the sun: 68:
   Blue is the sky and bright is the sun: 69-78.
65-66 An acid-drop for the Corner Cop./A crab-apple for Teacher, 68-78.
(A crab apple 70:)

67* Some mouldy fudge for His Honour the Judge, 68-78.
(*moldy 70: *His Honor 70-78.)

Mr Dean, Canons and Students of Christ Church, Ladies and Gentlemen, in lieu of prologue a reminder.

Note*:
(Prologue to Christ Church Son et Lumière. Summer 1968) 69 :
(Prologue for Christ Church Son et Lumière. Summer 1968) 70-78.
(This poem consists of eleven prose paragraphs. The arabic numeral at the head of each quoted line indicates the ordinal number of the paragraph, which is not given in the texts.)
1 69-78. (Mr. Dean, 70-78.)
4 it is meet that we remember to give homage and fair attribution to One who cannot be with us on this occasion, 69-78. (to one 70-78.)
   Her younger but no less august and humane Sister, DAME ALGEBRA. 69-78.
   (sister, 70-78.)
8 Except Her grace prevent, we are doomed to idolatry, 69-78.
8* to worship imaginary gods of our own making, 69:
   to worship imaginary gods of our own childish making, 70-78.
10 Honour to Her, then, and delight to those who serve Her faithfully. 69-78.
   (*Honor 70-78.)
10/11 (paragraph break) 69; 76, 78. (no paragraph break) 70:

Dark-green upon distant heights
(Only the New York Review of Books text has a capital letter at the head of each line.)
3 blonde and fertile the fields below them; 67-78. (*blond 70-78. them: 67:)
4-5 browning a hog-back, an oak stands/post-alone, light-demanding. 67-78.
   (a hogback, 70: stands, 67:)
12* Bilateral monarchies, moving about, 67:
   bilateral monarchies, moving frankly, 69-78.
13* All do the bidding of Dame Kind, 67:
   stoic by sort and self-policing, 69-78.
17-18 Name-Giver, Ghost-Fearer, maker of wars and wise-cracks, 67-78.
a rum creature, in a crisis always,/the anxious species to which I belong. 67–78.

dislodged from elsewhere,/by blood barbarian, in bias of view/a Son of the North, outside the limes. 67–78. (/A son 67:)

But the Gospel reached the unroman lands. 67–78. (lands: 67:)

I can translate what onion-towers/of five parish churches preach in Baroque:
(parish-churches 67: Baroque; 67:)

to make One, there must be Two,/Love is substantial, all Luck is good. 67–78. (To make One 67: good. 67:)

(One stanza, five italicized lines, added.) 69–78.

Flesh must fall through fated time/from birth to death, both unwilled, 69–78. (/From birth 70:)

a Mind of Honour must acknowledge/the happy eachness of all things, 67–78. (*Honor 67: 70–78.)

on the Main Line/a far-sighted express will snake by,/through a gap granted by grace of nature: 67–78. (nature. 67:)

still today, as in the Stone Age,/our sandy vale is a valued passage. 67–78. (to-day. 78. passage: 67:)

Alluvial flats, flooded often,/lands of outwash, lie to the North, 67–78. (to the North; 67:)

to the South litters of limestone alps/embarrass the progress of path-seekers. (To the South, 67:)

Their thoughts upon ski-slope or theatre-opening, 67–78. (*theater-opening 67:)

color no who pass us pay attention/to our squandered hamlets where at harvest time (where, at harvest-time, 67:)

Quiet now but acquainted too/with unwelcome visitors, 67–78. (now, 67:)

Though the absence of hedge-rows is odd to me 67–78. (hedgerows 70:)

(No Whig landlord, the landscape vaunts,/Ever empired on Austrian ground),

(no Whig landlord, the landscape vaunts,/ever empired on Austrian ground), 67:

done this unenglish tract after ten years/into my love has looked itself. //added its names to my numinous map 67–78. (itself, // 70–78.)

the Blue John Mine,/the Festiniog railway, the Rhayader dams,/Cross Fell, Keld and Cauldron Snout, 67–78. (the Blue-John Mine, 67: Snout. 67:)

Isafjördur, Épomeo, Poprad, Basel, Bar-le-Duc, 67–78. (Bar-le-Duc. 67:)

No, a New Yorker,/who opens his Times at the obit page, 67–78. (page. 67:)

Already a helpless orbited dog 67–78.

* Has blinked at our wasteful worried shape, 67:
has blinked at our sorry conceited 0. 69–78.

94* And our time gave birth to torturers 67:
and my day turned out torturers 69–78.

95 who read Rilke in their rest periods. 67–78. (rest-periods. 67:)

96–100 (One stanza added.) 69–78.

109–110 Giver-of-Life, translate for me/till I accomplish my corpse at last. 67–78.
(Giver of Life, 67: for me, 67:)

MARGINALIA
(In CWW and CP 76/78, this sequence consists of five Parts including, respectively, nineteen, eleven, thirty-two, ten, and twenty-seven untitled short poems ranging from two to ten lines. Of the whole ninety-nine poems, thirty-three were published in the periodicals given below. The Arabic numerals indicate the numerical order of each poem in the CWW and CP texts, in which the numbers are not given. The Roman numerals are the numbers of the Parts.)


(In the list below, the numerals in parentheses given at the head of each line indicate the numerical order of each poem in the CWW and CP texts, and divided by a slant, of the same poem in the “Marginalia” (NYRB) text. In all the periodical printings each line begins with a capital letter, while in the CWW and CP texts, with the exception of V–12, capital letters are used only where sentences begin, and also in proper nouns and personified abstract nouns. Only in the CP text single quotation marks are used. Where the names of authors are given in parentheses under the last line, they are set in small capitals in the CP 76/78 text.)

I

(1) Fate succumbs
2–3 one alone/jeopardises itself. 69–78. (*jeopardizes 70:)

(3/2) Unable to see
2 a neighbour to frown at, 66–78. (*neighbor 66; 70–78.)
4 (after K. Lorenz) 66: / (after Konrad Lorenz) 69–78.

(6) Afraid after long
4–5 the two old friends re-affirmed/their pact with peals of laughter. 69–78.
(reaffirmed 70:)

(One stanza added.) 69–78.
(7) Brashly triumphant,
   2-4 over-dogmatic, a sneeze asserts without proof/some ritual connection 69-78.
   (overdogmatic, 70:)

(10) Fear and Vanity
   6 (after Erik Eriksson) 69-78. (*Erikson 70-78.)

(11) Everyone thinks:
   2-3 "I am the most important/Person at present. " 69-78.
   4-5 The sane remember to add: "important, I mean, to me." 69-78.
   ("Important, 70-76:"

(15) The introvert is deaf
   2-3 to his neighbour’s cry/at the extrovert’s pinch. 69-78.
   (*neighbor’s 70:)

(17) Wicked deeds have their glamour
   1 69-78. (glamour, 70-78.)

(19/28) The decent, probably,
   3-6 but few can inherit// the genes, or procure/both the money and time,/to join
   the civilised. 69-78. (civilized. 70:)

II

(2/13) The last king
   2-3* Of a fallen dynasty/Is never well spoken of. 66:
   of a fallen dynasty/is seldom well spoken of. 69-78.

(3) Few even wish they could read
   2-3* the lost annals/of a cudgelled people. 69-78. (*cudgeled 70-78.)

(6) No tyrant ever fears
   2 His geologists or his engineers. 69-78. (/his 70-78.)

(7/5) Tyrants may get slain,
   1* 69-78. / *Tyrants may get killed, 66:

(8/6) Patriots? Little boys,
   1 66-78. (boys 66:)
   2-3 Obsessed by bigness,/Big pricks, big money, big bangs. 66:
   obsessed by Bigness,/Big Pricks, Big Money, Big Bangs. 69-78.

(10/21) In semi-literate countries
   1 66-78. (semiliterate 70:)
   2-3 demagogues pay/court to teenagers. 66-78. (teen-agers. 66 ; 70-78.)

III

(2) Their Gods:—like themselves
   1 69-78. (gods:— 70-78.)
   4-5 but (as, thank God, they were not)/for ever young and intact. 69-78.
   (*forever 70-78.)

(4) Wars, revolts, plague, inflation:
W.H. AUDEN'S REVISIONING PROCESS (XI)

1* 69: / *Wars, revolts, plagues, inflation: 70–78.

(6) Voracious eater,
3–4 when playing checkers/he forgot about meal-times, 69–78.
(meal times, 70:)

(7) While the Empire went to pot,
2–4 he amused himself/extemporising moral./highly moral, iambics, 69–78.
(*extemporizing 70–78.)

(8) A neglected wife,
7–10 a metal icon of Christ/which answered questions/and foretold future events/by a change in its colours. 69–78. (10 *colors. 70–78.)

(10/10) After the massacre
1 66–78. (massacre, 66:)

(11/8) Reluctant at first
3–6 after//consulting his confessor,/in good spirits/he signed a death warrant.
(a death–warrant. 66:)

(12/9) Be godly, he told his flock,
1 66–78. / “Be godly,” he told his flock, 66:
2–3 “Bloody and extreme/Like the Holy Ghost.” 66:
   bloody and extreme/like the Holy Ghost. 69–78.

(15) The Huguenot church-bells
1 69–78. (*Huguenot 70–78. church bells 70:)
2–3 were flogged, then baptised/as Roman Catholics. 69–78.
(*baptized 70–76:)

(21) War-time. English schoolboys
1 69–78. (Wartime 70:)

(22) Rumours ran through the city
1 69–78. (*Rumors 70–78.)

(26) Ready any day
2–3 to pistol each other/on a point of honour, 69–78. (*honor, 70–78.)

(28/24) Abandoning his wives,
1 66–78. (*Abandoning 66:)

(29/22) To maintain a stud
2–3 of polo-ponies he now/was too stout to ride, 66–78.
(polo ponies 66:)
4–5 he slapped taxes on windows,/hearth-stones and door-steps and wives.
   (hearthstones 70: doorsteps 70:)

(32/25) Providentially
2–3 right for once in his life-time/(his reasons were wrong), 66–78.
(lifetime/ 66; 70:)
4–5 the old sod was permitted/to save civilisation. 66–78.
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(*civilization. 66; 70:)

IV

(1) Animal femurs,
1 69-78. (femurs 70-78.)

(9) On his return from foreign parts
6-9 his knavish gamekeeper, // his ignorant housemaids, // had enacted against/ innocent barn-owls. 69-78. (barn owls. 70:)

(10/26) Who died in Nineteen-Sixty-Five
2-3* more worthy of honours/ Than Lark, a cow 66-78.
(*honors 66; 70-78. *Lark, the cow 66:)
4-6 who gave to mankind/one-hundred-and-fifteen-thousand/litres of milk?
(One hundred and fifteen thousand 66:)

V

(3/Q-3) His thoughts pottered (Q = the reading of the Quest text)
1 69-78. / *His thoughts potter  Q:

(7) On the bushes
2-3 St Martin's gossamer, // in the bathroom a stray toad. 69-78. (St. 70-78.)

(9) Imaged in the bar-mirror
2-3 during their lunch-hour, // a row of city faces, 69-78. (lunch hour, 70:)

(10) How cheerful they looked,
2-3 the unoccupied bar-stools // in mid-afternoon, 69-78. (bar stools 70:)
4-5* free for some hours from the weight // of drab defeated bottoms. 69-78.
(*freed 70-78.)

(11) How could he help him?
2-4 Miserable youth! in flight // from a non-father, // an incoherent mother, 69-78.
(miserable 70:)

2* Are most highly thought of to-day: 66N:
Are highly thought of today, 69-78. (to-day, 76, 78.)
3-4* But torture and treachery/ Are not my sort of lechery, 66N:
But torture and treachery/ Are not his kinds of lechery, 69-78.
5* So I've given my copies away. 66N:
So he's given his copies away. 69-78.

(13) Americans—like omelettes:
1 69-78. (*omelets: 70:)

(21) The shame in ageing is not that Desire should fail
1-2 69-78. (*aging 70:)

(25) Years before doctors / had invented the jargon,
3-5 he knew from watching/ his maiden-aunts that illness / could be psycho-somatic.
(maiden aunts 70: psychosomatic. 70-78.)
A Study of W.H. Auden's Textual Revision of the Poems
Included in Poems (1933) and Look, Stranger!(1936)

Y. S. Yamada

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The following list attempts to show the process of W.H. Auden's revision of the thirty poems originally included in the Poems (1933) and of the thirty-two poems contained in Look, Stranger! (1936). My aim in the present work is to make clear, by comparing the preceding and succeeding versions with each of the poems, and by giving every variants between the versions, how the poet continued to revise each individual poem over the period of nearly forty years. This work has been made as part of the groundwork for my intended critical study of Auden's revising process. We have J.W. Beach's The Making of the Auden Canon (University of Minnesota Press, 1957), which attempts to suggest "the probable reasons for the revisions, excisions, and eliminations noted, in terms of the poet's artistic ideals and taste, and of changes in his thinking" (p. 3). But his examination only covers the versions up to the 1945 Collected Poetry and the 1950 Collected Shorter Poems, and besides, revealing as his remarks sometimes are, I disagree with him in many places. The poets' revising process is, in many cases, the subllest as well as the most interesting subject to deal with. Probably it can be one of the effective approaches to the poets' innermost worlds. Auden's opinion of the poet's revision can clearly be known by his "Foreword" to the first edition of Mr B.C. Bloomfield's W.H. Auden: A Bibliography: The Early Years Through 1955 (the University Press of Virginia, 1964). He states:

A critic is entitled, of course, to prefer an earlier version to a later, but some seem to think that an author has no right to revise his work. Such an attitude seems to me mad. Most poets, I think, will agree Valery's dictum: "A poem is never finished, only abandoned". To which I would add: "Yes, but it must not be abandoned too soon".

Furthermore he says: "I have made scores of further revisions in the hope of one day being able to reprint" (viii).

A few remarks might be made as the result of the examination of variants. Most marked are the changes in punctuation between the versions. Few poems have escaped the author's alteration. It is an interesting fact that sometimes the punctuations in a later version agree with, and in effect recovers, those in the earliest version. This, it would seem, shows that Auden was a highly auditory type of poet. It might be supposed that he had tested the tonal effect of each line, passage, stanza on each occasion for revising. One of the points made clear through the work of comparison is that the increase of punctuations, especially of commas, in a number of poems is noted in the 1950 Collected Shorter Poems, and is most marked in the 1966 collection.
Another interesting fact is that the first publications in the periodicals sometimes contain one or more misprints. This is caused, probably, by the handwriting of the poet. John Lehmann describes it as "minute, squashed", and "more like the recordings of a highly sensitive seismograph while a road-drill was breaking up the street outside than an attempt at human communication" (The Whispering Gallery, Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1954, p. 254). The "poet-port" episode told somewhere by Auden himself is an illustration of the fact that his handwriting is fairly difficult for any type-setter to read, and is most interesting in that the misprinted word was found by the poet to be better than the original one.

It may be observed that most of the poems has had at least one occasion of comparatively great revision. The date of revision differs with each poem. Some were revised when included in the 1930 or 1933 edition of the Poems or in Look, Stranger!; others when included in the 1950 or 1966 collection.

As for the selections, according to Mr Bloomfield, the 1938 selection was made by the author, while the 1940 volume was not (W.H. Auden: A Bibliography 1924-1969, the University Press of Virginia, 1972, pp. 34, 46). In both selections practically no alteration occurs. But the 1958 selection is worth special attention. A number of revisions, of word as well as of punctuation, are made there. But most of them do not survive in the 1966 collection, and thus in many cases the 1950 versions agree with the 1966 versions. No definite inference can be drawn yet, but it might be assumed either that, although the poet had made many changes in the 1958 selection, he discarded most of them in the 1966 collection, probably on reconsideration, except for several alterations of words. Or that the 1966 collection was set up from a copy of the 1950 collection with corrections made, and at the time the changes made in the intermediate 1958 selection were not taken into account.

The versions used for comparison in the present list are those of Poems (1928), the first publications in the periodicals, Poems (1930), Selected Poems (1938), Some Poems (1940), Collected Poetry (1945), Collected Shorter Poems (1950), W.H. Auden: A Selection by the Author (1958), Collected Shorter Poems (1966) and Selected Poems (1968). My choice, in Part I, of the thirty poems of the 1933 Poems, not those of the 1930 edition, as the basis of the textual comparison is due to the fact that the revised edition seems to have been regarded by the author as the definite edition. It was reprinted seven times, according to Mr Bloomfield, until it was out of print in 1963 (Bibliography, 1972, pp. 6-7).

The first lines are shown below after the roman numerals, originally used both in Poems and Look, Stranger! to designate the number of the poems. It is to be understood that the title of each poem after that of the 1945 collection, when not given, is the same as that of the preceding version or versions. The abbreviations used in the square brackets are as follows:

- P=Poems
- LS=Look, Stranger!
- CP=Collected Poetry
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SP = Selected Poems or Some Poems or W.H. Auden: A Selection by the Author
CSP = Collected Shorter Poems

Periodicals which could not be seen are asterisked.

In the body of the present work of comparison the following abbreviations are used; each version is represented by the date of its publication after the practice of Professor L.C. Martin in his critical edition of Crashaw's Poetical Works (Oxford University Press, 1927; 2nd ed. 1957):

30 = Poems (Faber and Faber, 1930)
33 = Poems (Faber and Faber, 1933)
36 = Look, Stranger! (Faber and Faber, 1936)
38 = Selected Poems (Faber and Faber, 1938)
40 = Some Poems (Faber and Faber, 1940)
45 = Collected Poetry (Random House, 1945)
50 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1930-1944 (Faber and Faber, 1950)
58 = W.H. Auden: A Selection by the Author (Penguin Books, 1958)
66 = Collected Shorter Poems: 1927-1957 (Faber and Faber, 1966)
68 = Selected Poems (Faber and Faber, 1968)

The following abbreviations are used only where the first appearance of the poems in these journals occurs either in 1930, 1933 or 1936. Any alteration except that in punctuation is asterisked.

C = Criterion
L = The Listener
NS = New Signature or the New Statesman
NV = New Verse
TC = The Twentieth Century

The double quotation marks used in the 1945 collection are treated throughout as identical with the single ones used in all the other volumes by Auden.

My gratitude is due to the Senate House Library and the Birkbeck College Library, both of the University of London; the former offered me the opportunity to examine the 1930 Poems, and the latter let me have on loan for close examination and comparison the Cincinnati University facsimile edition of the 1928 Poems. I am grateful to the British Museum and its Colindale department for providing me with the photostatic copies of the poems first published in a number of periodicals. I wish to thank Dr Nothmann and Mr John Bell of the Covent Garden Bookshop, who found for me many valuable periodicals containing the first published versions of Auden's poems. I also wish to thank Mr Shozo Tokunaga who has kindly lent me a copy of the 1945 Collected Poetry which I could not meet with either in Japan or in London.

Y.S.Y.
PART I

Poems

I: Will you turn a deaf ear

[P 1930; P 1933; CP, "The Questioner Who Sits So Sly"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

6 touchers 30–50: touchers, 66.
7 amusers 30–50: amusers, 66.
9 badge 30–50: badge, 66.
10 hedge 30–50: hedge, 66.
14 pain 30–50: pain, 66.
21 *for friend 30–50: as friend 66.
22 mind 30–50: mind, 66.
26 blue 30–50: blue, 66.
33 *cusions 30, 33: cushions 45–66.
34 martyrdom. 30–50: martyrdom, 66.
37 signs 30–50; signs, 66
38 zones 30–50: zones, 66.
46 shame 30–50: shame, 66.

II: Doom is dark and deeper than any sea-dingle.


5 house; 32: house, 33–68.
6 *hands 32: hand 33–68. women, 32: women; 33–68.
8 *By place-keepers, by forest trees, 32:
   Through place-keepers, through forest trees, 33–68.
10 water; 32: water, 33–68.
21 capture 32: capture, 33–68.
22 *tiger’s spring 32–58: tiger’s leap 66, 68 at corner: 32: at corner; 33–68.
26 like a stain: 32: like a stain; 33–68.
27 to certain 32: to certain, 33–68.
III: Since you are going to begin to-day
[P 1930; P 1933; SP 1938; CP, “Venus Will Now Say a Few Words”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
  8 stone 30–50: stone, 66.

IV: Watch any day his nonchalant pauses, see
[P 1930; P 1933; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, “We All Make Mistakes”; CSP 1950, “A Free One”; CSP 1966]
  10 blood 30–50: blood, 66.
  11 wood 30–50: wood, 66.
  14 *to the intrinsic 30–50: to an intrinsic 66.

V: From the very first coming down
  4 *remain. Today 28: remain: to-day 30, 33: remained: to-day 45, 50: remain:
     to-day 58, 66.
  9 *rebegun 28: re-begun, 30–66.
 12 *the tiles, Spring’s 28: the tile, spring’s 30–66.
 17 and through 28–50: and through, 58: and through 66.
 18 as you 28: as you, 30–66.
 22 deceived; 28: deceived. 30–66.

VI: Between attention and attention
  1 and attention 33–50: and attention, 66.
  2 decision 33–50: decision, 66.
  5 flesh 33–50: flesh, 66.
 31 grace, 33, 45: grace 50, 66.
 36 *The easy knowledge 33–50: (the penultimate line, deleted) 66.

VII: Upon this line between adventure
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Do Be Careful”; CSP 1950, “Between Adventure”; CSP 1966]
  4 name 30–50: name, 66.
  5 arm 30–50: arm, 66.
  8 drunkenness 30–50: drunkenness, 66.
over 30–50: over, 66.

VIII: Again in conversations

[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Two’s Company”; CSP 1950, “Never Stronger”; CSP 1966]

7 *Than peace-time occupations. 30:
      Than boys’ imaginations. 33–66.
9 and twos 30–45: and twos, 50, 66.
14 and younger 30–45: and younger, 50, 66.
15 *goodbye 30, 33: good-by 45–66.
16 there 30–50: there, 66.

IX: Its no use raising a shout.
[P 1933]

X: Love by ambition

[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Too Dear, Too Vague”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

5 to no 30–50: to no, 66.
6 not love, 30, 33: not love; 45–66.       no is no 30–50: no is no, 66.
7 door 30–50: door, 66.
8 jaw 30–50: jaw, 66.
9 *A conscious sorrow, 30, 33: A conscious sorrow; 45, 50: A wilful sorrow; 66.
13 happiness, 30–50: happiness; 66.
14 all 30–50: all, 66.
15 creak 30–50: creak, 66.
20 pain 30, 33: pain, 45–66.
22 disagree 30, 33: disagree, 45–66.
27 there 30–50: there, 66.
28 chair. 30–50: chair, 66.
30 *who stands next 30–50: what stands next, 66.
31 *vext 30, 33: vexed 45, 50: vexed, 66.
34 grace 30–50: grace, 66.
36 another 30, 33: another, 45–66.

XI: Who stands, the crux left of the watershed,

[P 1928, VI; P 1930; P 1933; CP, “The Watershed”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966; SP 1968]

2 grass, 28: grass 30–68.
4 *to the wood 28–33: to the wood, 45, 50: to a wood, 66, 68.
9 performed. 28: performed, 30–50: performed. 66, 68.
10 And further 28–50: And, further, 66, 68.
11 chosen, 28: chosen 30–68.
12 winters. Two there were, 28: winters; two there were 30–68.
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14 *the gale 28–50: a gale 66, 68.
16 *village: in his wooden shape 28: village, but in wooden shape 30–68.
17 his way, 28: his way 30–68.
18 *in a final valley 28: in his final valley 30–68.
19 Go home now, 28: Go home, now, 30–68. stock 28: stock, 30–68.
20 vexed. 28: vexed: 30–68.
26 Arriving, driven 28: Arriving driven 30–68.
28 being spring. 28: being spring; 30–68.

XII: We made all possible preparations,
P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Let History Be My Judge”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966
11 at rising 30–50: at rising, 66.

XIII: What’s in your mind, my dove, my coney;
7 the familiar. 33: the familiar; 38–66.

XIV: Sentries against inner and outer,
P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Shut Your Eyes and Open Your Mouth”; CSP 1950
(No alteration.)

XV: Control of the passes was, he saw, the key
P 1928, XV; P 1930; P 1933; CP, “The Secret, Agent”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966; SP 1968
1 *the Passes 28: the passes 30–68.
4 *seduced with 28–50: seduced by 66, 68.
7 nearer; they 28: nearer. They 30–68. wires. 28–50: wires: 66, 68.
10 the desert; woken 28: the desert. Woken 30–68.
13 shoot of course 28: shoot, of course, 30–68.
14 *who 28–50: two that 66, 68.

XVI: It was Easter as I walked in the public gardens
P 1930; P 1933; SP 1940; CP, “1929”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966
1 gardens 30–50: gardens, 66.
15 Who sorry in this time 30–50: Who, sorry in this time, 66.

2 night-thinking 30–50: night-thinking, 66.
38 *He say 30–40: He says, 45–66.
50 *At strict beauty 30–45: A strict beauty 50: At strict beauty 66.
53 peace, 30–45: peace 50, 66.
By opposite strivings for entropic peace,
    Retreat to lost home or advance to new, 30: (deleted) 33-

*And by intermarriage 30–50: And intermarriage 66.
  race 30–50: race, 66.

*And a new 30–50: A new 66.

*Focussing stars 30–45: Focusing stars 50, 66.

This is the account of growing, of knowing:
    First difference from first innocence
    Is feeling cold and nothing there,
    Continual weeping and oversleeping,
    Is mocking, nudging, and defence of fear;
    Verbal fumbling and muscle mumbling,
    Imagination by mispronunciation.
    Sebaceous belly, swollen skull,
    Exchanging hats and calling dear
    Are rich and silly, poor and dull. 30:

(The above ten lines, originally the second stanza of Part 4 in the 1930 edition; deleted) 33–

*The falling leaves 30–45: The falling children 50, 66.

football ground, 30–45: football ground 50, 66.

*to enforce 30–50: enforce 66.

*With organized fear, the articulated skelton. 30–50: (the last line of the second
  stanza, Part 4; deleted) 66.

For this is how it ends,
    The account of growing, the history of knowing,
    As more comatose and always in,
    Living together in wretched weather
    In a doorless room in a leaking house,
    Wrong friends at the wrong time. 30:

(The six lines, originally the fourth stanza of Part 4 in the 1930 edition; deleted) 33–

*We know it, we know 30–50: We know it, know 66.

XVII: This lunar beauty
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Purr”; CSP 1950, “Like a Dream”; SP 1958, “This Lunar Beauty”; CSP 1966]

*history 30, 33: history, 45–66.
*time 30, 33: time, 45–66.
*changes 30, 33: changes, 45, 50: changes 58: changes, 66.
*Nor 30, 33: Nor, 45–66.
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XVIII: Before this loved one
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “This One”; CSP 1950; SP 1958; CSP 1966, “This Loved One”]
2 and that one 30–58: and that one, 66.
5 adversity 30–58: adversity, 66.
11 worse 30–58: worse, 66.
13 house 30–58: house, 66.
17 *supple 30–58: lively 66.
21 loss; 30–58: loss, 66.
22 *Touching is shaking hands 30–58: Touching a shaking hands 66.
23 lands; 30–58: lands, 66.
26 Good luck’ 30, 33: Good luck’ 45: Good luck’ 50, 58: Good luck’. 66.
27 meeting 30–58: meeting, 66.

XIX: The silly fool, the silly fool
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Happy Ending”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
7 or rather 30–50: or rather, 66.
12 succeed 30–50: succeed, 66.
13 in love 30–50: in love, 66.

XX: The strings’ excitement, the applauding drum
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, “Family Ghosts”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
1 drum 30–50: drum, 66.
3 come. 30–50: come, 66.
5 *Graffiti-writers, 30–45: Graffiti-writers, 50, 66.
16 *came, 30–50: come, 66.

XXI: On Sunday walks
6 window 30–50: window, 66.
7 say 30–50: say, 66.
8 know 30–50: know, 66.
12 done 30–50: done, 66.
14 lampoon 30–50: lampoon, 66.
16 night 30–50: night, 66.
16/17 (no paragraph space) 30–45: (paragraph space) 50: (no paragraph space) 66.
17 eaters 30–50: eaters, 66.
24 and on 30–50: and on, 66.
31 villages 30–50: villages, 66.
make-believe 30–50: make-believe, 66.
names 30–50: names, 66.
charms 30–50: charms, 66.
fords 30, 33: fords, 45–66.
strongness 30, 33: strongness, 45–66.
good. 30: good 33: good. 45–66.

XXII: Get there if you can and see the land you once were proud to own
[1930; Twentieth Century, March 1931, “By W.H. Auden”; P 1933]
2 *vanished 30: vanished 31 (apparently a misprint): vanished 33.
17 *boon companions 30: our boon companions 31: boon companions 33.
*our servants 30: our servant 31: our servants 33.
27 *avoid then 30: avoid them 31: avoid then 33.
28 *all occasions 30, 31: all occasion 33.
35 Blake 30: Blake, 31: Blake 33.
44 *realized 30: realised 31: realized 33.
30/31 Ours was a Renaissance, we were going to have lovely fun;
Quite prepared for any lark, until we found it wasn’t done.

So we sit at table talking, pornographic as we dine,
Each the good old topic, meaningless as an electric sign. 30, 31:
(The above two stanzas, originally the sixteenth and the seventeenth; deleted) 33–

XXIII: Look there! The sunk road winding
[Twentieth Century, February 1933, (no title); P 1933; CP, “The Bonfires”; CSP 1950;
CSP 1966]
5 athletes, TC: athletes; 33–66.
10 attack TC: attack; 33–66.
13 legend, TC: legend 33–66.
*each one TC: all were 33–66.
14 *They hew TC (very probably a misprint for held): And held 33–66.
*straightened spot, TC: staitened spot; 33: straitened spot; 45–66.
not TC: not, 33–66.
16 simple; TC: simple. 33–66.
17 further TC: further; 33–66.
24 thorough. TC, 33: thorough, 45–66.
25 *It won't be us who eavesdrop TC, 33: Leaving no double traitor 45-66.
26 *That day TC: In days 33-66.

XXIV: From scars where kestrels hover,
[P 1930; P 1933; CP, "Missing"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

9 *unforeseen, 30: unforeseen, 33, 45: unforeseen, 50, 66.
14 lip. 30, 33: lip; 45-66.
23 now 30-50: now, 66.
26/27 (paragraph space) 30, 33: (no paragraph space) 45-66.
34 the capital 30-50: the capital, 66.
34/35 (paragraph space) 30-50: (no paragraph space) 66.

XXV: Who will endure
[P 1933; CP, "Better Not"; CSP 1950; SP 1958, "No Change of Place"; CSP 1966]

3 to another? 33-50: to another, 58, 66.
6 and sea; 33-50: and sea, 58, 66.
8 *chained-up 33, 45: chain-up 50: chained-up 58, 66.
10 run 33-50: run, 58, 66.
11 in the sun 33-50: in the sun, 58, 66.
19/20 (no paragraph space) 33-50: (paragraph space) 58, 66.
21 fireside 33-58: fireside, 66.
22 *with a small mad smile, 33-50: with a secret smile, 58, 66.
24 *on the maps 33-50: on our maps 58, 66.
24-25 *that lie / About in ships long high and dry 33-50: (cut) 58, 66.
26 *Grow stranger and stranger. 33-50: grow stranger / And threaten danger. 58, 66.
27 place 33-50: place: 58, 66.
28-30 But shifting of the head
To keep off glare of lamp from face,
Or climbing over to wall-side of bed; 33-50: (deleted) 58, 66.
(30 bed; 33, 45: bed 50.)

XXVI: Taller to-day, we remember similar evenings,
[P 1928, XVI; P 1930; P 1933; CP, "As Well as Can Be Expected"; CSP 1950, "Taller To-day"; SP 1958; CSP 1966]

2 *the windless 28-50: a windless 58, 66.
4-10 28-50: (two stanzas, deleted) 58, 66.
(4 grate 28: grate, 30-50.)
(6 *turn in the window, 28: turn to the window, 30-50.)
(9 One, 28: One 30-50. in a tower; 28: in a tower, 30-50.)
11 snow; 28: snow, 30-50.
15 *happy we, 28: happy now, 30–66.
16 *See the farms 28: We see the farms 30–50: We see farms 58, 66.
   *up the valley, 28: all along the valley; 30–66.
17 *the hammering stops 28–50: hammering stops 58, 66.
20 *to some 28: for some, 30–66.
21 *contradict, passing but is 28: contradict: passing, but is 30–58: contradict:
   passing but here, 66.

XXVII: To ask the hard question is simple;

[Criterion, July 1933, the first of "Two Poems"; P 1933; SP 1938; CP, "What Do You
Think?"; CSP 1950; "The Hard Question"; SP 1958, "The Question"; CSP 1966]
   1 simple; C–50: simple: 58: simple; 66.
   17/18 (no paragraph space) C–50: (paragraph space) 58: (no paragraph space) 66.
   19 easy C–38: easy; 45, 50: easy, 58: easy; 66.

XXVIII: Under boughs between our tentative endearments how should we hear

[P 1930; P 1933; CP, "When the Devil Drives"; CSP 1950]
(No revision.)

XXIX: Consider this and in our time

[P 1930; P 1933; CP, "Consider"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
   9 in uniform 30–50: in uniform, 66.
   10 tables 30–50: tables, 66.
   15 whale 30–50: whale, 66.

42–49 Financier, leaving your little room
   Where the money is made but not spent,
   You'll need your typist and your boy no more;
   The game is up for you and for the others,
   Who, thinking, pace in slippers on the lawns
   Of College Quad or Cathedral Close,
   Who are born nurses, who live in shorts
   Sleeping with people and playing fives. 30, 33:

(Originally the first eight lines of the third and last stanza; deleted) 45–

XXX: Sir, no man's enemy

[P 1930; P 1933; SP 1940; CP, "Petition"; CSP 1950]
   10 great; 30: great 33: great; 40–50.
PART II

Look, Stranger!

I: Prologue: O love, the interest itself in thoughtless Heaven,


2 within 32, 33: within, 36: within 38: within, 40-50.
3 meet 32, 33: meet, 36-50.
5 starlings 32-40: starlings, 45, 50.
7 power 32: power, 33-50.
8 scarp 32, 33: scarp, 36-50.
9 The mole 32-40: The mote 45, 50.
10 as Newton was who in his garden 32, 33:
   as Newton was, who in his garden 36-40:
   as Newton was who, in his garden 45, 50.
13 *has contented 32-40: had contented 45, 50.
15 Lancashire 32-40: Lancashire 45, 50.
18 shadow 32: shadow; 33-50.
19 air 32, 33: air, 36-50.
22 golf-course 32: golf course, 33-40: golf-course, 45, 50.
23 marvels; 32-40: marvels, 45, 50.
24 glory 32: glory. 33-50.
26 hostile, 32-40: hostile 45, 50.
31 begun 32: begun, 33-50.
32 *spiritual marriage 32–40: virtuous marriage 45, 50.
33 Yet, O, 32–45: Yet O, 50.
37 *Some dream, say yes, 32, 33: Some possible dream, 36–50.
38 *and kindness 32–40: and reflection 45, 50.
40 *And called out of tideless peace by a living sun 32, 33:
And out of the Future into actual History, 36–40:
And out of the future into actual history, 45, 50.

II: Out on the lawn I lie in bed,
[The Listener, 7 March 1934, “Summer Night”; LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, “A Summer
Night 1933”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, “A Summer Night”]
1 in bed 34: in bed, 36–66.
3 June 34: June; 36–40: June, 45–66.
4 *Forests of green have done complete 34–40:
As congregated leaves complete 45–66.
5 *The day’s 34–40: Their day’s 45–66.
8 working place 34: working place; 36–40: working-place, 45–66.
16 *light draws 34–45: lights draws 50: light draws 66.
17 *From leaves with all its dove-like pleading 34–40:
With all its gradual dove-like pleading, 45–66.
19 then 34–40: then, 45–66.
25–30 Moreover, eyes in which I learn
That I am glad to look, return
My glances every day;
And when the bird and rising sun
Waken me, I shall speak with one
Who has not gone away. 36–40:
(the fifth stanza, cut) 45–66.
(25 Moreover eyes, 34: Moreover, eyes 36–40.)
(27 day, 34: day; 36–40.)
31 *Now North and South and East and West 34–40:
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Now north and south and east and west 45-66.

rest 34: rest; 36-66.

all; 34: all; 36-40: all, 45-66.

*power stations 34-40: power-station 45, 50: power-stations 66.
she peers, 34-40: she peers 45-66.
*blankly as an orphan stares 34-40: blankly as a butcher stares 45-66.
pictures. 34-40: pictures 45, 50: pictures. 66.
here; 34-40: here, 45-66.
cannot move 34: cannot move, 36-40: does not move, 45-66.
Look up 34: Look up, 36-40: Look up 45-66.
And gentle 34: And, gentle, 36-66. know 34: know, 36-66.

*her eastern bow 34: her Eastern bow, 36-40: her eastern bow, 45-66.
is done; 34-40: is done, 45-66.

55-72 The creepered wall stands up to hide
The gathering multitudes outside
Whose glances hunger worsens;
Concealing from their wretchedness
Our metaphysical distress,
Our kindness to ten persons.

And now no path on which we move
But shows already traces of
Intentions not our own,
Thoroughly able to achieve
What our excitement could conceive,
But our hands left alone.

For what by nature and by training
We loved, has little strength remaining:
Though we would gladly give
The Oxford colleges, Big Ben,
And all the birds in Wicken Fen,

It has no wish to live. 34-40:

(65 conceive 34: conceive, 36-40.)

Soon through the dykes 34-40: Soon, soon, through dykes 45-66.
a rent 34: a rent, 36-40: a rent 45-66.
And taller than a tree 34:
And, taller than a tree, 36-66.
eyes, 34: eyes 36-66.
appears; 34-40: appears, 45-66.
rivetting 34: riveting 36-66.

*May this for which we dread to lose 34–40:
May these delights we dread to lose, 45–66.

*Our privacy, 34–40: This privacy, 45–66.

belong; 34–40: belong, 45–66.

*The drowned voices of his parents rise 34:
The drowned voice of his parents rise 36–40:
The drowned parental voices rise 45–66.


*may it calm 34–40: let them calm 45–66.

nations; 34–40: nations, 45–66.

*its patience 34–40: their patience 45–66.

III: Our hunting fathers told the story

[The Listener, 30 May 1934, “Poem”; LS; SP 1938; CP, “In Father’s Footsteps”; CSP 1950, “Our Hunting Fathers”; CSP 1966]

6 glare 34: glare, 36–66.

11 Who nurtured in that fine tradition 34–38:
Who, nurtured in that fine tradition, 45–66.


16 modify 34: modify, 36, 38: modify 45–66.

IV. Song: Let the florid music praise,


1 *the florid music 36–50: a florid music 66.


14 *death, 36–50: Death, 66.

V: Look, stranger, at this island now


1 *at this island now 35–40: on this island now 45–66.

8 *the small field’s 35–50: a small field’s 58: the small field’s 66.

9 to the foam, 35–40: to the foam 45–66.

12–13 the suck-/-ing surf, and the gull lodges 35–40:
the suck-/-ing surf,/And the gull lodges 45–66.

(13 *the gull 35–50: a gull 58: the gull 66.)


17 *the full view 35–50: this full view 58: the full view 66.

VI: O what is that sound which so thrills the ear


9 gear; 34, 36: gear, 45–68.
11 *the usual 34, 36: their usual 45–68.
13 there; 34, 36: there, 45–68.
15 *in the orders, dear; 34, 36: in their orders, dear. 45–66.
17 care; 34, 36: care, 45–66.
21 they want, 34: they want 36: they want, 45–66. hair; 34, 36: hair, 45–66.
27 *the farm 34, 36: the farmyard 45–68.
30 *you swore me 34, 36: you swore 45–68.
35 *Their feet 34, 36: Their boots 45–68.

VII: Hearing of harvests rotting in the valleys,

[Criterion, July 1933; LS; SP 1938; CP, “Paysage Moralisé”; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

16 valleys 33: valleys, 36, 38: valleys 45–66.
17 *all the year trees blossomed 33–38: all the green trees blossomed 45–66.
22 sorrow; 33–38: sorrow, 45–66.
23 *villagers 33–50: villages 66.
24 islands. 33–38: islands... 45–66.
26 stalking head-up, lovely 33–38: stalking, head-up, lovely, 45–66.
   *the cities; 33–38: our cities; 45–66.
29 *your sorrow, 33: their sorrow, 36, 38: your sorrow, 45–66.
32 islands; 33–38: islands, 45–66.
34 cities; 33–38: cities, 45–66.
35 water; 33–38: water, 45–66.
37 *the sorrow; shall it 33–38: our sorrow. Shall it 45–66.
   *Ah, water 33–50: Then water 66.

VIII: Now the leaves are falling fast,

2 last; 36–58: last, 66, 68.
3 *to the graves 36–50: to their graves 58–68.
5 neighbours, 36–58: neighbours 66, 68. and right, 36–58: and right 66, 68.
6 *Pluck us 36–58: Daunt us 66, 68.
*the real delight; 36–50: our real delight; 58: our true delight, 66, 68.
7 *And the active hands must freeze 36–50:
And our active hands must freeze 58:
Able hands are left to freeze 66:
Able hands are forced to freeze 68.
8 *Lonely on the separate knees. 36–50:
Lonely on our separate knees. 58:
Derelict on lonely knees. 66, 68.
9–10 *Dead in hundreds at the back
Follow wooden in our track, 36–58:
Close behind us on our track,
Dead in hundreds cry Alack, 66, 68.
13 *Starving through the leafless wood 36–58:
Scrawny through a plundered wood, 66, 68.
14 food; 36–58: food, 66, 68.
15 *And the nightingale is dumb, 36–58:
Owl and nightingale are dumb, 66, 68.
17–20 *Cold, impossible, ahead
Lifts the mountain’s lovely head
Whose white waterfall could bless
Travellers in their last distress. 36–58:
Clear, unscaleable, ahead
Rise the Mountains of Instead,
From whose cold cascading streams
None may drink except in dreams. 66, 68. (the fifth and last stanza)

IX: The earth turns over, our side feels the cold,
[New Verse, February 1934, “Poem”; LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, “Through the Looking-Glass”; CSP 1950, “Through the Looking Glass”]

1 over, 34–40: over; 45, 50.
2 trees; 34–40: trees: 45, 50.
3 killed, 34–40: killed; 45, 50.
4 *its boys. 34: the boys. 36–50.
7 *All our traditional sympathy 34–40: All on traditional sympathy 45, 50.
8 *love. 34–40: Love. 45, 50.
9 on the wall; 34: on the wall 36–40: on the wall, 45, 50.
or the stony, 34: or the stony—36-40: or the stony, 45, 50.

*The painter's gifts 34: The painter's gifts 36-50. round—34-40: round; 45, 50.
*Through the blue irises 34-40: Though each blue iris see 45, 50.
*The 34-40: That 45, 50.
*logic 34-40: Logic 45, 50.

*When age becomes 34: Where age becomes 36-50.

sailors. 34-40: sailors 45, 50.


a character — 34: a character. 36-40: a character; 45, 50.


a river bend, 34-40: a river-bend, 45, 50.

an Aunt 34: an aunt 36-50.

*weazel 34: weasel 36-50.

*False; but no falser than the world it matches, 34-40:

Behind me roars the other world it matches, 45, 50.


school: 34-40: school. 45, 50.


massed 34-40: massed, 45, 50.

flashes by; 34-40: flashes by, 45, 50.

*the one in cypher; 34-40: speaks in cypher. 45, 50.

to the 34-40: to its 45, 50. offer, 34: offer: 36-40: offer, 45, 50.

Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a room, 34:
Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a dream, 36-40:

Unable to choose either for a home, 45, 50.

to your arms. 34-40: to your arms 45, 50.

And 34-40: While 45, 50.

flies. 34-40: flies, 45, 50.

All things he takes and loses but conceit,

The Alec who can buy the life within, 36-40:
And pride succeeds to each succeeding state,
Still able to buy up the life within, 45, 50.

(45 conceit; 34: conceit, 36-40.)

(46 *This Alec still 34: The Alec who 36-40. within 34: within, 36-40.)


*the waves are rough: 34-40: its waves are rough; 45, 50.

played 34-40: played, 45, 50.

*my archipelago, 34: the archipelago, 36-50.

all day, 34-40: all day 45, 50.

*a generous bay; 34: a generous boy; 36-50.

*Gale of desire may blow 34-40: Tempest and tide may blow 45, 50.

*Birth of a natural order and of love; 34-40:
The birth of natural order and true love: 45, 50.

X: Now from my window-sill I watch the night

1 night 33, 36: night, 45-66.

5 *The jets in both the dormitories are out. 33-50:
   The lights of near-by families are out. 58, 66.

8 upon the lawn 33, 36: upon the lawn, 45-66.

11-20 *But deaf to prophecy or China's drum
   The blood moves strangely in its moving home,
   Diverges, loops to travel further
   Than the long still shadow of the father,
   Though to the valley of regret it come.

   Now in this season when the ice is loosened,
   In scrubbed laboratories research is hastened
   And cameras at the growing wood
   Are pointed; for the long lost good,
   Desire like a police-dog is unfastened. 33-50:

   (the third and the fourth stanzas, cut) 58, 66.

(13 loops 33, 36: loops, 45, 50.)

(14 father 33: father, 36-50.)

(15 *Through 33: Though 36-50. *it came. 33: it come. 36-50.)

(19 the long lost good. 33: the long lost good, 36: the long-lost good 45, 50.)

21 *limit, 33, 36: Limit, 45-66.

22 left and right: 33, 36: left and right, 45-66.

24 begins 33: begins, 36-66.

26-30 *Oldest of masters, whom the schoolboy fears
   Failing to find his pen, to keep back tears,
   Collecting stamps and butterflies
   Hoping in some way to appease
   The malice of the erratic examiners. 33-50: (the sixth stanza, cut) 58, 66.

(26 masters, 33, 36: masters 45, 50.)

(27 *pen, to 33, 36: pen or 45, 50.)

(28 *and butterflies, 33, 36: or butterflies, 45, 50.)

(30 examiners. 33, 36: examiners, 45, 50.)


say of late, 33, 36: say; — 'Of late — 45, 50: say; 'Of late — 58, 66.

32 "Here — you can see the marks — they lay in wait." 33:
   'Here — you can see the marks — they lay in wait. 36:
   Here. You can see the marks — They lay in wait.' 45, 50:
   Here. You can see the marks — They lay in wait,' 58, 66.

33 *in my thought 33, 36: in my thoughts 45-66.

36 in sun and wet 33, 36: in sun and wet, 45-66.
41-45 *We know you moody, silent, sensitive,
    Quick to be offended, slow to forgive,
    But to your discipline the heart
    Submits when we have fallen apart
    Into the isolated personal life. 33-50: (the ninth stanza, cut) 58, 66.

(45 *personal life. 33, 36: dishonest life. 45, 50.)
46 over quick; 33: over-quick; 36-66.
50 *For 33, 36: And 45-66.

50/51 *Permit our town here to continue small,
    What city’s vast emotional cartel
    Could our few acres satisfy
    Our rival in intensity
    The field of five or six, the English cell?
    Preserve our Provost, Piermaster, Police,
    Making swimming-bath and tennis-club a place
    Where almost any summer day
    A visitor is carried away
    By unexpected beauty of speech or face.
    Well you have watched before, but watch again
    The Lindens, Ferntower, Westoe, and this pen,
    Remember them especially please,
    Throughout the coming year with these
    Be very very patient, gentlemen. 33: (three stanzas, cut) 36-

51-55 *At the end of my corridor are boys who dream
    Of a new bicycle or winning team;
    On their behalf guard all the more
    This late-maturing Northern shore,
    Who to their serious season must shortly come. 33-50:
    (one stanza, cut) 58, 66.

56-65 *Give them spontaneous skill at holding rein,
    At twisting dial, or at making fun,
    That these may never need our craft,
    Who, awkward, pasty, feeling the draught,
    Have health and skill and beauty on the brain.
    The clocks strike ten: the tea is on the stove;
    And up the stair come voices that I love.
    Love, satisfaction, force, delight,
    To these players of Badminton to-night,
    To Favel, Holland, sprightly Alexis give. 33, 36: (two stanzas, cut) 45-66.

(59 Who 33: Who, 36.)
70 none 33, 36: none, 45-66.
71 *O from this table break uncontrollably away 33, 36: O, from their tables break uncontrollably away, 45-66.
XI: Just as his dream foretold, he met them all:
[LS; CP, "Nobody Understands Me"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, "A Misunderstanding"]
7 *at the green chateau; 36, 45: at the green château; 50: at her green chateau; 66.
9 *the talk 36–50: their talk 66.
10 *for stroking and advice; 36–50: for someone to advise, 66.
11 learn, 36–50: learn 66.
14 bridegroom 36: bridegroom, 45, 50: bridegroom 66.

XII: As it is, plenty;
[LS; CP, "His Excellency"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
3 happy 36–50: happy, 66.
5 far 36: far, 45–66.
13 as not, 36: as not 45–66.
15 but love 36: but love, 45–66.
17 *intransigent nature 36: intransigeant nature, 45–66.
21 *Forget, Forget. 36:
    Forget, forget. 45–66.
22 praise 36: praise, 45–66.
23 Then 36: Then, 45–66. *his spacious days; 36–50: his lordly days; 66.
27 *The profits 36: The profit 45–66.
28 *And the sins venal, 36:
    And the sin venial, 45–66.

XIII: A shilling life will give you all the facts:
[LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, "Who's Who"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]
8 *weep his pints 36–50: weep pints 66.

XIV: Brothers, who when the sirens roar
[Twentieth Century, September 1932, "A Communist to Others"; New Country, 1933; LS]
1 *Comrades 32, 33: Brothers, 36.
2 office 32, 33: office, 36.
5 drug 32, 33: drug, 36.
26 *have done you brown, 32, 33: have done you down, 36.
35/36 *You're thinking us a nasty sight;
    Yes, we are poisoned, you are right,
    Not even clean;
    We do not know how to behave
    We are not beautiful or brave
You would not pick our sort to save
Your first fifteen. 32, 33: (the sixth stanza, cut) 36.

thing 32: thing. 33, 36.

Deceiver: 32: Deceiver! 33, 36.

*their one salvation: 32, 33: their one starvation 36.

the Alone 32, 33: the Alone, 36.

stuma 32, 33: stuma, 36. boss’ 32: boss’s 33, 36.

*The worst employer’s double dealing
Is better than their mental-healing
That would assist us.
The world, they tell us, has no flaws
Then is no need to change the laws
We’re only not content because
Jealous of sisters.

Once masters struck with whips; of recent
Years by being jolly decent
For these are cuter
Fostering the heart’s self-adulation
Would dissipate all irritation
Making a weakened generation

Completely neuter. 32, 33: (two stanzas, cut) 36.

tremble 32: tremble, 33: tremble 36.

Goya 32: Goya: 33, 36.

rut 32: rut, 33, 36.

gut 32: gut, 33, 36.

shut 32: shut, 33, 36.

apostles 32: apostles, 33, 36.

too 32: too, 33, 36.

*Unhappy poet, you whose only
Real emotion is feeling lonely
When suns are setting;
Who fled in horror from all these
To islands in your private seas
Where thoughts like castaways find ease
In endless petting:
You need us more than you suppose
And you could help us if you chose.

In any case
We are not proud of being poor
In that of which you claim a store:
Return, be tender; or are we more
Than you could face?

Comrades to whom our thoughts return,
Brothers for whom our bowels yearn
When words are over;
Remember that in each direction
Love outside our own election
Holds us in unseen connection: 20
O trust that ever. 32, 33: (the last three stanzas, cut) 36.

(7 petting. 32: petting: 33.)
(12 a store 32: a store: 33.)
(15 return 32: return, 33.)
(17 over 32: over; 33.)
(20 connection. 32: connection: 33.)

XV: The chimneys are smoking, the crocus is out in the border;
[New Country, 1933, “Poem”; LS; CSP 1950, “Two Worlds”]
1–2  *Me, March, you do with your movements master and rock
  With wing-whirl, whale-wallow, silent budding of cells; 33:
  The chimneys are smoking, the crocus is out in the border;
  The mountain ranges are massive in the blue March day; 36, 50.

3  a sea-god 33: a sea god 36, 50.
  *the communist orator 33: the political orator 36, 50.
5  sea 33: sea, 36, 50.
11 creature 33: creature; 36, 50.
14 forces 33: forces, 36, 50.
17 war 33: war, 36, 50.
18 *our Reds 33: the Reds 36, 50.
19 each: 33, 36: each; 50.
26 *lakes 33: lake 36, 50.
33 *our hour of unity make us aware 33: our hour of unity makes us aware 36, 50.
  worlds 33: worlds: 36, 50.
34 double-shadow 33: double-shadow, 36, 50.
36 *Our 33: For our 36, 50.
  star 33: star, 36, 50.
43 night 33: night, 36, 50.
47 lake 33: lake, 36, 50.
52 lives 33: lives, 36, 50.
53 *because of our trust 33: if we can trust 36, 50.
55 *within earshot 33, 36: within the earshot 50.
56/57 *What we do for each other now must be done alone:
  It’s not just another case of laissez-faire;
  It is not necessity but our loving will
  That lets us out of our sight.
  But we are not together and we care;
  Not all the languages it masters
  Can make one heart secure
  Nor summer’s moistures. 33: (one stanza, cut) 36, 50.
57 *Look what we stand on, the bone-rich soil of England; 33:
  We ride a turning globe, we stand on a star; 36, 50.
60 *Its 33: It’s 36, 50.
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66 *Let it choose 33: Let us choose 36, 50.
69 these 33: these, 36, 50.
71 *by circumstance 33, 36: by circumstances 50.
74 buoy, 33: buoy; 36, 50.

XVI: May with its light behaving
2 eye, and limb; 36–50: eye and limb, 66.
5 *to the 36–50: to each 66.
6 come, 36–50: come 66.
7 *The living white and red. 36–50:
   In living white and red. 66.
8 *The dead 36–50: Our dead, 66.
9 *In their enclosures rest; 36–50: In hollows rest, 66.
10 *the vague woods 36–50: their vague woods 66.
12 flit; 36–50: flit, 66.
13 *We stand 36, 50: Stand now 66.
15 before us; 36–40: before us, 45–66.
17 *The common wish 36–50: Abundant wish 66.
18 *The pleasured and the haunted; 36–50:
   The pleasing, pleasured, haunted: 66.
23 *The tortoise and the roe, and lays 36–50:
   Tortoise and roe, that lays 66.
28 *The endearment and the look. 36–50:
   Touch, endearment, look. 66.

XVII: Here on the cropped grass of the narrow ridge I stand,
[New Oxford Outlook, November 1933*; LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CSP 1950, “The Malverns”]
2 in air, 36–40: in air 50.
29 workshops; 36–40: workshops, 50.
38 desk, 36–40: desk 50.
79 *your seers 36–40: you seers 50.
80 *behind you 36–40: behind 50.
100–121 *And out of the turf the bones of war continue;
   ‘Know then, cousin, the major cause of our collapse
   Was a distortion in the human plastic by luxury produced,

   Never higher than in our time were the vital advantages;
   To matter entire, to the unbounded vigours of the instrument,
   To all logical precision we were the rejoicing heirs.

   But pompous, we assumed their power to be our own,
Believed machines to be our heart’s spontaneous fruit,
Taking our premises as shoppers take a tram.
While the disciplined love which alone could have employed these engines
Seemed far too difficult and dull, and when hatred promised
An immediate dividend, all of us hated.
Denying the liberty we know quite well to be our destiny,
It dogged our steps with its accusing shadow
Until in every landscape we saw murder ambushed.
Unable to endure ourselves, we sought relief
In the insouciance of the soldier, the heroic sexual pose
Playing at fathers to impress the little ladies,
Call us not tragic; falseness made farcical our death:
Nor brave; ours was the will of the insane to suffer
By which since we could not live we gladly died:
And now we have gone for ever to our foolish graves.’

XVIII: The sun shines down on the ships at sea,
[New Oxford Outlook, 1933, “To a Young Man on His Twenty-First Birthday”*; LS]

XIX: To lie flat on the back with the knees flexed
[LS; CP, “What’s the Matter?”; CSP 1950]

XX: Fleeing the short-haired mad executives,

1 *Fleeing the 36–50: Fleeing from 66.
2 *The subtle useless faces 36: The sad and useless faces 45–66.
4 *Above, the breakneck scorching rock, the caves; 36:
   Above, the breakneck scorching rock, the caves, 45, 50:
   Above, a breakneck scorching rock; no caves, 66.
5 no water; with 36–50: no water. With 66.
6 *Cooling my face there in the faults that flaunt 36–50:
   Cooling my weariness in faults that flaunt 66.
8 as a vow; 36: as a vow: 45, 50: as a vow, 66.
9 in the least; 36: in the least, 45–66.
10 view; 36: view, 45–66.
11 lost: 36: lost; 45, 50: lost, 66.
XXI: Easily, my dear, you move, easily your head

[The Listener, 20 February 1935, "A Bride in the 30's"; LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, "A Bride in the 30's"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

1 *Easily, my dear, you move, 35–50: Easily you move, 66.
your head 35–40: your head, 45–66.

2 And easily 35–50: And easily, 66. *through leaves 35: through the leaves

impressions 35: impressions, 36–66.

4 *Past the tall tenements and the trees in the wood; 35–40:
Past the tall tenements and the trees in the wood, 45, 50:
Past tenement, river, upland, wood, 66.

(4 in the wood 35.)

7 loving 35–50: loving, 66.

8 *The stones the steels and the polished glass; 35–40:
The stones, the steels, and the polished glass; 45, 50:
Things of stone, of steel and of polished glass; 66.

9 *Lucky to love 35: Lucky to Love 36–40: Lucky to love 45, 50: Lucky to Love
66. *the new pansy railway 35: the new pansy railway, 36–40: the strategic
railway, 45–66.

10 *The sterile farms 35–50: The run-down farms 66.

11 *the 35–50: each 66.

15 the roads 35–50: the roads, 66.

16 *Along the endless plains 35–50: Along ending plains 66. is 35–40: is, 45–66.

17 as a collector 35–40: as a collector, 45–66.

18 and lilies. 33–40: and lilies 45, 50: and lilies. 66.

of grace 35: of grace, 36–66.


23 *The horses, the fountains, the sidedrum, the trombone 35–50:
Horses, fountains, a side-drum, a trombone, 66.
(trombone 35, 36: trombone, 45, 50. sidedrum, 35, 36: side–drum, 45, 50.)

24 *And the dance, the dance. 35–50:
The cosmic dance. 66.

25 our time 35: our time, 36–40: our time 45, 50: our time, 66.

26 *Such images to audience come 35–50:
Such images to sight and audience come 66.

27 *As vanity 35–50: As Vanity 66. *nor bless: 35, 36: nor bless; 45, 50,: or bless, 66.

28 *Hunger and love 35–50: Hunger and fear 66.


29 *the flight of the birds 35–40: the flight of the birds, 45, 50: movements of birds, 66.


31 *Ten thousand of the desperate marching by 35–40:
Ten million of the desperate marching by, 45, 50:
Ten desperate million marching by, 66.

33 poses 35-40: poses, 45-66.
34 *the voter’s greeting 35-40: the voters' greeting, 45-66.
35 *Van Lubbe 35: Van der Lubbe 36-66. laughing 35-40: laughing, 45-66
36 meeting. 35-40: meeting 45, 50: meeting. 66.
38 his disposal; 35-40: his disposal, 45-66.
39 of his own 35: of his own, 36-40: of his own 45-66.
43 *Certain it became while we were still incomplete 35-50:
 Certain it became, while still incomplete, 66.
44 *There were certain prizes 35-50: There were prizes 66.
45 *by every childish illness, 35-50: by each childish illness, 66.
46 *among the hothouse plants, 35-40: amid the hot-house plants, 45-66.
47 in the garden, 35-40: in the garden 45, 50: in the garden, 66.
48 aunts. 35-40: aunts 45, 50: aunts. 66.
49 *And 35-50: While 66.
50 yield; 35-50: yield, 66.
51 *the plans, 35-50: our plans, 66.
52 *for a life and 35-50: for a life-time, 66.
56 *These ghosts would like to make their own. 35-50:
 That ghosts would like to make their own: 66.
57 *Are they your choices? O, be deaf 35, 36:
 Are they your choices? O be deaf 45, 50:
 Beware them, look away, be deaf, 66.
58-59 *To hatred proffering immediate pleasure/Glory to swap 35:
 When hatred would proffer her immediate pleasure,/ And glory swap 36-50:
 When rage would proffer her immediate pleasure/Or glory swap 66.
61 Be deaf too 35: Be deaf too, 36-40: Be deaf, too, 45-66.
63 not, 35: not; 36-40: not, 45-66.
64 *The voice of love 35-50: The voice of Love 66.
65 Be Hitler, 35-40: be Hitler, 45-66.
*be very good 35: be my good 36-50: be my good, 66.
67-78 *The power that corrupts, that power to excess
 The beautiful quite naturally possess:
 To them the fathers and the children turn:
 And all who long for their destruction,
 The arrogant and self-insulted, wait
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The looked instruction.

Shall idleness ring then your eyes like the pest?
O will you unnoticed and mildly like the rest,
Will you join the lost in their sneering circles, 75
Forfeit the beautiful interest and fall
Where the engaging face is the face of the betrayer,
And the pang is all? 35-50: (two stanzas, cut) 66.

(67 *which corrupts, 35: that corrupts, 36-50.)
(68 possess: 35-40: possess; 45, 50.)
(69 turn 35: turn: 36-40: turn, 45, 50.)
(70 destruction 35: destruction, 36-50.)
(71 self-insulted wait 35: self-insulted, wait 36-50.)
(73 pest? 35-40: pest, 45, 50.)
(74 will you unnoticed 35-40: will you, unnoticed 45, 50.)
(77 betrayer 35: betrayer, 36-40: betrayer 45, 50.)
79 *Wind shakes the tree; the mountains darken: 35:
Wind shakes the tree; the mountains darken; 36-50:
Trees are shaken, mountains darken, 66.

81 *Yours is the choice 35: 'Yours is the choice, 36-40: "Yours is the choice 45: Yours is the choice 50: 'Yours the choice 66.
82 *of learning and 35-50: of learning, 66. of love 35: of love, 36-66.
83 *as a moneybug 35-40: as a moneybag 45, 50: as a money-bug, 66.
*or a cancer 35-40: or a cancer, 45, 50: as a cancer, 66.
84 as a dove.' 35-50: as a dove. 66.

XXII: Two Songs: 1: Night covers up the rigid land
[LS]

2: Underneath the abject willow,
[LS; SP 1938; CP, "Songs, XXXV"; CSP 1950, "Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXIV"; SP 1958; CSP 1966]
1 *the abject 36-58: an abject 66.
2 suilk no more; 36, 38: suilk no more: 45-66.
3 follows: 36, 38: follow. 45-66.
11 *those 36, 38: these 45-66.
17 flying 36-58: flying, 66.
18 know; 36, 38: know, 45-66.
19 *Brooks beneath the thin ice flowing 36-58:
Icy brooks beneath you flowing, 66.
20 go; 36, 38: go. 45-66.
21 *Coldest love will warm to action, 36, 38:
Dark and dull is your distraction, 45-58:
Dark and dull is your distraction: 66.
XXIII: To settle in this village of the heart,

[New Verse, June 1934, “Poem”; LS; CP, “It’s So Dull Here”; CSP 1950]

2 the hall 34, 36: the Hall 45, 50.
3 *dovecote 34: dovecots 36: dovecote 45, 50.
5 dead, 34: dead; 36: dead, 45, 50.
7 particular. One 34, 36: particular: one 45, 50.
8 *Trunk-roads of fear passes the very door, 34:
   Trunk roads passes the very door already, 36–50.
9 *And greed’s thin cafés 34: And the thin cafés 36–50.
   overnight. 34: over night. 36: overnight. 45, 50.
10–11 *The sham ornamentation of the feelings,
   The strident swimming-pool of the senses, thoughts
   Dressed up identically in townee smartness, 34:
   The sham ornamentation, the strident swimming pool,
   The identical and townee smartness, 36–50.
12 *see as home, 34, 36: see these as home 45, 50.

XXIV: O for doors to be open and an invite with gilded edges


3 *With the somersaults 35–45: With somersaults 50–68.
4 *the six cripples 35: the cripples 36–68.
6 And 35–40: — ‘And 45–68.
7 playing 35–40: playing, 45–68.
9 *the six cripples 35–40: the cripples 45–68.
11 And 35–40: — ‘And 45–68.
   *yelling faces, 35–40: yellow faces 45–68.
12 *Dependant on the chestnut, 35–40: Dependent on the chestnut, 45–68.
14 *the six cripples 35–40: the cripples 45–68.
   statue, 35–45: statue. 50: statue, 58: statue. 65: statue, 68.
16 *This square 35: And this square 36–40: — ‘And this square 45–68.
   *to be a deck, 35–40: to be deck 45–58: to be a deck 66, 68.
   *sails 35–58: canvas 66, 68.
   to rig 35–40: to rig, 45–68.
19 the six cripples 35–40: the cripples 45–68.
22 *my stick 35–40: my crutch 45–68.
XXV. Only the hands are living; to the wheel attracted,
[LS, "Casino"; CP; CSP 1950]
  2 Are moved, 36: Are moved 45, 50.
  5 And 36: And, 45, 50.
  8 prayers. 36: prayers 45, 50.
 14 and the bird, 36: and the bird 45, 50.
 15 of summer, 36: of summer 45, 50.
 17 shepherd, 36: shepherd; 45, 50.
 18 deserted, 36: deserted; 45, 50.
 22 *none were loved; 36: none was loved; 45, 50.

XXVI: That night when joy began
[LS; CP, "Songs, XXXI"; CSP 1950, "Songs and Other Musical pieces, XXXI";
CSP 1966, "Five Songs, II"]
  2 to flush 36: to flush, 45-66.
  5 let us pass 36: let us pass, 45; let us pass 50: let us pass, 66.
  7 *Outgrew his nervous laugh; 36:
      Outgrows his nervous laugh, 45:
      Outgrows his nervous laugh 50:
      Outgrows his nervous laugh, 66.
  8 *Grows credulous of peace 36:
      Grows credulous of peace, 45:
      Crows credulous of peace, 50:
      Grown credulous of peace, 66.
 10 reproach 36: reproach, 45-66.

XXVII: Fish in the unruffled lakes
[The Listener, 15 April 1936, "Poem"; LS; SP 1940; CP, "Songs, VI"; CSP 1950,
"Songs and Other Musical Pieces, VI"; CSP 1966, "Twelve Songs, V"]
(L stands for the Listener version below.)
  6 grove: L: grove; 36-66.
  7 fish, and L-50: fish and 66.
  9 *time's L: Time's 36-66.
 10 We till L-50: We, till 66.
 13 *The devil L: The Devil 36-66.
XXVIII: Dear, though the night is gone,


(NV stands for the New Verse version below.)

3 to a room, NV, 36: to a room 45–66.
5 terminus; NV: terminus, 36–66.
10 We kissed, NV: We kissed 36–66.
15 *each other's necks, NV, 36: each other's neck, 45–58: each other's necks, 66.
22 another love, NV: another love; 36–66.

XXIX: Love had him fast, but though he fought for breath

[New Verse, October 1933, "Five Poems, V"; LS; CP, "Meiosis"; CSP 1950; CSP 1966]

2 *another, 33: Another, 36–66.
3 *his little 33: the little 36–50: their little 66. death; 33, 36: death, 45–66.
4 *And you, the seed 33: Till You, the seed, 36: Till you, the seed 45–66.
5 *of love, 33: of Love, 36: of love, 45–66. *through love were free, 33: through Love was free, 36: through love was free, 45–66.
10 simplified, 33, 36: simplified 45–66.
12 in that almost all his hope 33: in that 'almost' all his hope 36–66.

XXX: August for the people and their favourite islands.

[New Verse, October–November 1935, "To a Writer on His Birthday"; LS; SP 1938; SP 1940; CSP 1950, "Birthday Poem"]

4 valleys 35: valleys, 36–50.
6 habit 35: habit, 36–50.
9 freedom, 35: freedom; 36–50.
11 leapfrog, 35: leap frog 36–50.
17 fancy 35: fancy, 36–50.
18 approves 35: approves, 36–50.
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31 wish, 35: wish; 36–50.
40 *the norman tower. 35–40: the Norman tower. 50.
54 madmen, 35: madmen; 36–50.
55 bed. 35: bed: 36–50.
59 to day 35: to-day 36–50.
60 *Its warnings and its lies, and it's impossible 35–40:
   Warnings and lies, and it is little comfort 50.
64 *The stores 35: The stoves 36–50.
   up 35: up, 36–50.
   Cross 35: Cross, 36–50.
69 The green thum to the ledger knuckled down,
   (This line occurs at the end of this 9th stanza in the New Verse version, which
   reads:
   And gaga Falsehood highly recommended,
   The green thum to the ledger knuckled down.)
71 a character 35: a character, 36–50.
72 recommended, 35: recommended. 36–50.
73 money 35: money, 36–50.
74 *love's wandering eloquence 35: Love's wondering eloquence 36–50.
75 in furs 35: in furs, 36–50.
79 *power 35: Power 36–50.
   *shamefully maltreated 35: shockingly maltreated, 36–50.
81 dismay 35: dismay, 36–50.
95 history 35: history, 36–50.

XXXI: Epilogue: Certainly our city — with the byres of poverty down to
[LS; SP 1938; CP, "As We Like It"; CSP 1950, "Our City"]
1 our city — 36, 38: our city 45, 50. *with the byres 36, 38: with its byres 45, 50.
2 *the cathedral, the engines, the dogs; 36, 38: its cathedral, its engines, its dogs; 45, 50.
5 *by the conscious-stricken, 36, 38: by the conscience-stricken, 45, 50.
6 *The rumours 36, 38: Wild rumours 45, 50.
7 *The betrayers 36, 38: Betrayers 45, 50.
9 *without reproaches shewed us 36, 38: without reproaches showed us 45: without reproach showed us 50.
11 Our hatred, 36, 38: Our hatred 45, 50.
13–20 *There was Nansen in the north, in the hot south Schweitzer, and the neat man
   To their east who ordered Gorki to be electrified;
There were Freud and Groddeck at their candid studies
Of the mind and body of man.

Nor was every author both a comforter and a liar;
Lawrence revealed the sensations hidden by shame,
The sense of guilt was recorded by Kafka,
There was Proust on the self-regard. 36, 38:
(two stanzas, cut) 45, 50.

25 *is dealt, and 36, 38: is dealt and 45, 50.
27 phial, 36, 38: phial 45, 50.
30 lovers touch: 36, 38: lovers touch; 45, 50.
31 flower, 36, 38: flower; 45, 50.
33 *in the lion’s charge. 36, 38: in a lion’s charge. 45, 50.
34 *Are They dead here? 36, 38: Are they dead here? 45, 50.