

Contents

	Preface	xv
	Introduction	3
	The University of Alabama Press	41
Ralph Burns	And Leave Show Business?	42
Sandra M. Gilbert	Her Last Sickness	43
	The Suits	44
Marieve Rugo	Translation	45
Peggy Shumaker	Calvinism	45
	The University of Arkansas Press	47
Debra Bruce	Hey Baby	48
John Ciardi	True or False	48
	Two Egrets	49
	Was a Man	49
David Citino	Einstein, Placenta, the Caves of Lascaux	51
George Garrett	Little Movie without a Middle	52
Ronald Koertge	Gretel	53
	Sidekicks	54
	Two Men	55
	The University of California Press	57
Robert Creeley	I Know a Man	58
	Joy	58
	The Language	59
Charles Olson	I, Maximus of Gloucester, to You	60
	Carnegie Mellon University Press	65
Peter Cooley	Last Conversation	68
Philip Dacey	Form Rejection Letter	68
Rita Dove	Pomade	70
Stephen Dunn	Weatherman	71
Elizabeth Libbey	Helpmate	73

Mekeel McBride	A Blessing	74
Ed Ochester	Cooking	75
	The Heart of Owl Country	76
Paula Rankin	Sideshow	78
Robert Wallace	I Go On Talking to You	79
Dara Wier	Lucille's Kumquat-Colored Kimono	80
	Midge in the Morning	81
	The University of Chicago Press	83
Howard Nemerov	Adoration	85
	Because You Asked about the Line between Prose and Poetry	85
	Beginner's Guide	86
Alan Shapiro	Mezuzah	88
Eleanor Wilner	The Continuous Is Broken, and Resumes	89
	Emigration	91
	The University Presses of Florida	93
Robert Siegel	In a Pig's Eye	95
	The University of Georgia Press	97
Susan Astor	The Coupling	99
Lynn Emanuel	The Photograph of Ramona Posing While Father Sketches Her in Charcoal	100
John Engels	Joyce Vogler in 1948	101
Brendan Galvin	The Birds	102
Michael Heffernan	The Crazyman's Revival (#6)	104
	Daffodils	104
	Famous Last Words	105
Conrad Hilberry	The Woman Who Was Ready to Die	106
X. J. Kennedy	Ars Poetica	107
	Nude Descending a Staircase	107
Charles Martin	Terminal Colloquy	108
Bin Ramke	The Obscure Pleasure of the Indistinct	108
Paul Smyth	Road Construction	109
Barry Spacks	Malediction	110
	The University of Illinois Press	111
Alice Fulton	Everyone Knows the World Is Ending	113
	Plumbline	114
Michael S. Harper	Nightmare Begins Responsibility	115

Sydney Lea	For My Father, Who Hunted	116
Dan Masterson	For a Child Going Blind	117
Dave Smith	Night Fishing for Blues	118
	On a Field Trip at Fredericksburg	122
Michael Van Walleghen	More Trouble with the Obvious	123
James Whitehead	A Local Man Remembers Betty Fuller	125
Robert Wrigley	Heart Attack	125
	Indiana University Press	127
Babette Deutsch	Disasters of War: Goya at the Museum	129
Sandra McPherson	Keeping House	130
	Resigning from a Job in a Defense Industry	131
Theodore Roethke	Elegy for Jane	132
	My Papa's Waltz	133
	The Waking	133
David Wagoner	Beauty and the Beast	134
	The Poets Agree to Be Quiet by the Swamp	136
	Report from a Forest Logged by the Weyerhaeuser Company	137
John Woods	I Only Have One Cavity	138
	When You Stop Growing	139
	You Can't Eat Poetry	139
	The University of Iowa Press	141
Elton Glaser	Red Beans & Rice	142
Michael Pettit	Mighty Sebastian Bach	143
	Johns Hopkins University Press	145
Philip Dacey	The Last Straw	146
Wyatt Prunty	To Ed, with Alzheimer's	147
	What Doesn't Go Away	148
Gibbons Ruark	Essay on Solitude	149
David St. John	Hush	151
	Louisiana State University Press	153
Fred Chappell	Junk Ball	156
	My Father Washes His Hands	156
	The Story	159

Kelly Cherry	Fission 160
	Forecast 161
	Sharks 162
Margaret Gibson	The Onion 163
	Radiation 164
William Hathaway	Fear Row 166
T. R. Hummer	The Rural Carrier Discovers That Love Is Everywhere 167
	The Rural Carrier Resists Temptation 168
Susan Ludvigson	A Bargain at Any Price 168
	Grief 169
Lisel Mueller	The Artist's Model, ca. 1912 170
	The Fall of the Muse 171
	For a Thirteenth Birthday 172
Joyce Carol Oates	Parachuting 174
Stanley Plumly	Drunk 175
	Heron 176
David R. Slavitt	Broads 177
	Eczema 179
Henry Taylor	Artichoke 180
	At the Swings 180
Marilyn Nelson Waniek	Emily Dickinson's Defunct 183
	Women's Locker Room 184
Miller Williams	A Poem for Emily 185
	Ruby Tells All 186
	Why God Permits Evil: For Answer to This Question of Interest to Many Write Bible Answers Dept. E-7 188
Al Young	W. H. Auden & Mantan Moreland 190
	The University of Massachusetts Press 193
Lucille Clifton	forgiving my father 195
	homage to my hips 196
William Dickey	Face-Paintings of the Caduveo Indians 196
	The Food of Love 197
	Happiness 198
Stephen Dunn	At Every Gas Station There Are Mechanics 198
	Day and Night Handball 199

Jane Flanders	Heavenly Bodies	200
Patricia Goedicke	Like Animals	201
Linda Hogan	The Truth Is	202
Jonathan Holden	Casino	204
	"The Swing," by Honoré Fragonard	205
Walter McDonald	The Food Pickers of Saigon	206
Jane Shore	Lot's Wife	208
	The University of Missouri Press	211
Gerald Costanzo	At Irony's Picnic	213
	Vigilantes	213
Annie Dillard	The Man Who Wishes to Feed on Mahogany	214
Cathryn Hankla	The Night-Father Was Found Alive	216
Harry Humes	The Man Who Carves Whales	218
	The New Site of the Calvary Temple	219
Ed Ochester	James Wright Walks into a Sumac Patch near Aliquippa, Pennsylvania	219
Molly Peacock	The Life of Leon Bonvin	220
Janet Beeler Shaw	Burial Day	223
	Missouri Bottomland	224
Ronald Wallace	Oranges	225
	The University of North Carolina Press	227
Mona Van Duyn	The Gardener to His God	229
	Recovery	230
	Northeastern University Press	233
William Carpenter	Fire	234
	Something Is Adrift in the Water	235
Susan Donnelly	Eve Names the Animals	237
	Ohio State University Press	239
David Citino	Grynszpan, 1938	241
	Mary's Second Child	242
Walter McDonald	Hauling over Wolf Creek Pass in Winter	243
	Ohio University Press	245
Beth Bentley	The Poet at Seven	248

Conrad Hilberry	Harry Houdini 249 Poet 250
Colette Inez	Nicolette 251
	The University of Pittsburgh Press 253
Jack Anderson	Calamitous Dreams 258 The Invention of New Jersey 259 The Printed Page 261
Siv Cedering	The Juggler 261 Like a Woman in the Kitchen 263
Stuart Dybek	Little Oscar 264 Maroon 264
Gary Gildner	Burn-out 265 First Practice 267
Patricia Hampl	Fire Engine 268
Michael S. Harper	We Assume: On the Death of Our Son, Reuben Masai Harper 269
Etheridge Knight	Dark Prophecy: I Sing of Shine 270
Ted Kooser	At the Bait Stand 271 In an Old Apple Orchard 271 So This Is Nebraska 272
Larry Levis	Winter Stars 273
Peter Meinke	Miss Arbuckle 275 The Poet, Trying to Surprise God 275 Recipe 276
Carol Muske	China White 277 Surprise 278
Sharon Olds	The Language of the Brag 279 Satan Says 281 Tricks 283
James Reiss	By the Steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art 284
William Pitt Root	As If 285 Inference from the Eyes of a Hawk 286
Liz Rosenberg	The Christmas Cactus 286 Married Love 287
Richard Shelton	A Kind of Glory 288 Letter to a Dead Father 289 The New Road 290

David Steingass	Midwest U.F.O.	291
Constance Urdang	Minimalists	293
	The World Is Full of Poets	294
Ronald Wallace	The Facts of Life	295
	Ground Zero	295
	Tool Talk	297
David Young	The Ancient Wars	297
Paul Zimmer	One for the Ladies at the Troy Laundry Who Cooled Themselves for Zimmer	299
	What Zimmer Would Be	300
	Princeton University Press	303
Carl Dennis	Grandmother and I	305
Jorie Graham	I Watched a Snake	306
	Kimono	308
Debora Greger	The Armorer's Daughter	310
John Koethe	In the Park	311
Gary Miranda	Magician	313
	A Marzipan for Einstein's Birthday	314
	Great	315
Leonard Nathan	The Penance	316
Diana O'Hehir	Illinois Central Hospital	317
Alicia Ostriker	The Exchange	318
	Homecoming	318
	Those Who Know Do Not Speak, Those Who Speak Do Not Know	320
	A Love of Death <i>from An Explanation of America, Part Two: Its Great Emptiness</i>	321
Pattiann Rogers	How the Body in Motion Affects the Mind	323
Grace Schulman	Portrait	325
	Bill Flanagan at Maryknoll	326
Kathryn Stripling Byer	Texas Tech Press	327
	Solstice	328
	Wide Open, These Gates	329
Linda McCarriston	Barn Fire	330
	Trouble	331

Lisa Zeidner	Audience	332
	The University of Utah Press	335
Carole Oles	Better Vision	336
Maura Stanton	Childhood	337
Adrien Stoutenberg	Hypochondria	338
Henry Taylor	Bernard and Sarah	339
	The University Press of Virginia	341
William Carpenter	California	342
Jonathan Holden	Fate	343
Phyllis Janowitz	A Family Portrait	345
	Veal	346
Jeanne Larsen	A Natural History of Pittsburgh	348
	Wesleyan University Press	351
John Ashbery	Faust	358
Michael Benedikt	Fred, the Neat Pig	359
Robert Bly	Poem Against the Rich	360
	Poem in Three Parts	360
	Three Kinds of Pleasures	361
Sharon Bryan	Hollandaise	362
Thulani Davis	Potholes	362
James Dickey	Drowning with Others	363
	Gamecock	365
	The Heaven of Animals	366
Russell Edson	An Historical Breakfast	367
	My Uncle in the Distance	368
	Oh My God, I'll Never Get Home	369
John Haines	The Head on the Table	369
	The Middle Ages	370
	The Stone Harp	371
Judith Hemschemeyer	Skirmish	372
Garrett Kaoru Hongo	What For	372
	Who among You Knows the Essence of Garlic?	374
Barbara Howes	At 79th and Park	376
David Ignatow	Get the Gasworks	377
	Sunday at the State Hospital	378

Donald Justice	Counting the Mad	379
	Here in Katmandu	379
	Men at Forty	381
Adam Lefevre	Sestina Sestina	381
Philip Levine	Animals Are Passing from Our Lives	383
	Blasting from Heaven	384
	Waking an Angel	385
Susan Mitchell	The Dead	386
	For a Friend Eating an Apple	386
Marge Piercy	The butt of winter	387
	The friend	389
	Simple-song	389
David Ray	Stopping near Highway 80	390
Vern Rutsala	Late at Night	391
	Lunchroom	391
	The Public Lecture	392
Harvey Shapiro	National Cold Storage Company	392
Louis Simpson	American Poetry	393
	On the Lawn at the Villa	393
Elizabeth Spires	Salem, Massachusetts: 1692	394
Richard Tillinghast	Sailing near Sorrento	396
Sherley Anne Williams	Flo Show	397
	The Peacock Song	397
Charles Wright	American Landscape	398
	April	400
	The New Poem	401
James Wright	Autumn Begins in Martins Ferry, Ohio	401
	A Blessing	402
	Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy's Farm in Pine Island, Minnesota	403
David Young	Elegy in the Form of an Invitation	403
	The University of Wisconsin Press	405
Jim Daniels	May's Poem	407
	My Grandfather's Tools	408
	Places Everyone	410
Patricia Dobler	Aphasia	411
	Field Trip to the Mill	412
	Uncle Rudy Explains the Events of 1955	412

David Kirby	The Cows Are Going to Paris: A Pastoral	413
	The Late News	415
	Theology from the Viewpoint of a Younger Son	416
Lisa Zeidner	A Bomb	417
	Happiness	418
	Yale University Press	421
John Ashbery	The Painter	424
	Some Trees	425
George Bradley	Aubade	426
	In Suspense	426
Olga Broumas	Artemis	427
	Cinderella	429
Peter Davison	Finale: Presto	430
	The Keepsake	431
	Late Summer Love Song	432
Alan Dugan	Love Song: I and Thou	432
Carolyn Forché	Taking Off My Clothes	433
	Year at Mudstraw	434
Robert Hass	Graveyard at Bolinas	435
	On the Coast near Sausalito	436
Peter Klappert	Ellie Mae Leaves in a Hurry	438
	Photographs of Ogunquit	439
W. S. Merwin	Proteus	441
Adrienne Rich	A Change of World	443
	Aunt Jennifer's Tigers	443
	Storm Warnings	444
Cathy Song	Ikebana	445
	The Youngest Daughter	447
Maura Stanton	The All-Night Waitress	448
	The Fisherman's Wife	449
James Tate	The Lost Pilot	450
Leslie Ullman	Breakfast	452
David Wojahn	Heaven for Railroad Men	454
	Biographies of Poets	459
	Guidelines for Submitting Manuscripts to University Presses	485
	Acknowledgments	491