On Gwendolyn Brooks

Reliant Contemplation

Edited by Stephen Caldwell Wright

Ann Arbor

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS
## Contents

Preface xi

**Part One  Reviews**

* A Street in Bronzeville
  - Chicago Can Take Pride in New, Young Voice in Poetry 3
    - PAUL ENGLE
  - Review of *A Street in Bronzeville* 5

* Annie Allen
  - Cellini-Like Lyrics 6
    - J. SAUNDERS REDDING
  - Verse Chronicle 8
    - ROLFE HUMPHRIES
  - Still Remarkable 9
  - Bronze by Gold 10
    - STANLEY KUNITZ

* Maud Martha*
  - From Poet to Novelist 15
  - Soft Meditations 16
    - HENRY F. WINSLOW

* The Bean Eaters
  - From "Battle of the Books" 17
    - NICK AARON FORD
  - Pity the Giants 19
    - HARVEY CURTIS WEBSTER

* Selected Poems*
  - Taking the Poem by the Horns 23
    - LOUIS SIMPSON
  - A Long Reach, Strong Speech 24
    - BRUCE CUTLER

* In the Mecca*
  - Books That Look Out, Books That Look In 26
    - WILLIAM STAFFORD
In the Mecca
M. L. ROSENTHAL

The World of Gwendolyn Brooks
Making Beauty from Racial Anxiety
ADDISON GAYLE, JR.

The World of Gwendolyn Brooks
ROBERT FARNSWORTH

Children Coming Home
Children Coming Home: A Tribute to Survival
ANNYE L. REFOE

Part Two Essays
Blacklisting Poets
JAMES N. JOHNSON

Gwendolyn Brooks: An Appreciation from
the White Suburbs
DAN JAFFE

For Sadie and Maud
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

The Poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks
GEORGE E. KENT

Gwendolyn Brooks: Beyond the Wordmaker—The
Making of an African Poet
HAKI R. MADHUBUTI

Gwendolyn Brooks
ARTHUR P. DAVIS

Essences, Unifyings, and Black Militancy: Major Themes
in Gwendolyn Brooks's Family Pictures and Beckonings
WILLIAM H. HANSELL

From “The Florescence of Nationalism in the 1960s
and 1970s”
HOUSTON A. BAKER

Maud Martha
HARRY B. SHAW

Dual Vision in Gwendolyn Brooks's Maud Martha
PATRICIA H. LATTIN AND VERNON E. LATTIN

“Define . . . the Whirlwind”: Gwendolyn Brooks’s Epic
Sign for a Generation
R. BAXTER MILLER

In the Mecca
D. H. MELHEM
Gwendolyn Brooks: Jean Toomer's November Cotton Flower

JOYCE ANN JOYCE


GERTRUDE REIF HUGHES

The Satisfactions of What's Difficult in Gwendolyn Brooks's Poetry

BROOKE KENTON HORVATH

"Gottschalk and the Grande Tarantelle"

BRENDA R. SIMMONS

Part Three Recent Essays

The Women of Bronzeville

BEVERLY GUY-SHEFTALL

The Poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks: An Afrocentric Exploration

JOYCE ANN JOYCE

Gwendolyn Brooks: An Essential Sanity

HENRY TAYLOR

Selected Bibliography