THE YALE YOUNGER POETS ANTHOLOGY

Edited by George Bradley

Yale University Press  New Haven and London
Contents

Preface xvii
Introduction xxi

The Early Years

(charlton m. lewis, judge)

howard buck  the tempering (1919), vol. 1
le mort 3

john chipman farrar  forgotten shrines (1919), vol. 2
song for a forgotten shrine to pan 5

David Osborne Hamilton  Four Gardens (1920), vol. 3
 Ajax 5

Alfred Raymond Bellinger  Spires and Poplars
(1920), vol. 4
"bright as a single poppy in a field" 5

thomas caldecot chubb  the white god and other poems (1920), vol. 5
 Merlin 6

Darl Macleod Boyle  Where Lilith Dances (1920),
vol. 6
 The Curtain 8
THEODORE H. BANKS, JR.  Wild Geese (1921), vol. 7
  Tempest 8

VIOLA C. WHITE  Horizons (1921), vol. 8
  Child of Adam 9

HERVEY ALLEN  Wampum and Old Gold (1921), vol. 9
  The Wingless Victory 10
  Dragon’s Breath 11

OSCAR WILLIAMS  Golden Darkness (1921), vol. 10
  With Me 12

HAROLD VINAL  White April (1922), vol. 11
  To Persephone 13

MEDORA C. ADDISON  Dreams and a Sword (1922), vol. 12
  Names 14

BERNARD RAYMUND  Hidden Waters (1922), vol. 13
  The Well 14

PAUL TANAQUIL  Attitudes (1922), vol. 14
  A Very Young Man Speaks . . . 15

DEAN B. LYMAN, JR.  The Last Lutanist (1923), vol. 15
  The Eternal Controversy 16

AMOS NIVEN WILDER  Battle-Retrospect (1923), vol. 16
  from Battle-Retrospect
  “Those sultry nights we used to pass outdoors” 17

(FREDERICK E. PIERCE, JUDGE)

MARION M. BOYD  Silver Wands (1923), vol. 17
  Sea Spray 19

BEATRICE E. HARMON  Mosaics (1923), vol. 18
  Chanson Délice 20

(EDWARD BLISS REED, JUDGE)

ELIZABETH JESSEUP BLAKE  Up and Down (1924), vol. 19
  “Within and Without” 22
CONTENTS

(WILLIAM ALEXANDER PERCY, JUDGE)

DOROTHY E. REID  Coach into Pumpkin (1925), vol. 20 Between Aphorisms 23

ELEANOR SLATER  Quest (1926), vol. 21 Search 23

THOMAS HORNZY FERRIL  High Passage (1926), vol. 22 Jupiter at Beer Springs 24

LINDLEY WILLIAMS HUBBELL  Dark Pavilion (1927), vol. 23 Birth-Hour 26

MILDRED BOWERS  Twist o’ Smoke (1928), vol. 24 Answer 26

TED OLSON  A Stranger and Afraid (1928), vol. 25 Hypothesis 27

FRANCIS CLAIBORNE MASON  This Unchanging Mask (1928), vol. 26 Sunken Sailor 28

FRANCES M. FROST  Hemlock Wall (1929), vol. 27 Deserted Orchard 29

HENRI FAUST  Half-Light and Overture (1929), vol. 28 After the Storm 29 Six Cranes at Dusk 30

LOUISE OWEN  Virtuosa (1930), vol. 29 “Chart Showing Rain, Winds, Isothermal Lines and Ocean Currents” 31

DOROTHY BELLE FLANAGAN  Dark Certainty (1931), vol. 30 Three Years from Sorrento 32

PAUL ENGLE  Worn Earth (1932), vol. 31 Hart Crane 33
The Modern Series

(STEPHEN VINCENT BENÉT, JUDGE)

SHIRLEY BARKER  The Dark Hills Under (1933), vol. 32
“There was not loveliness nor fortune there” 37

JAMES AGEE  Permit Me Voyage (1934), vol. 33
Description of Elysium 38
Permit Me Voyage 39

MURIEL RUKEYSER  Theory of Flight (1935), vol. 34
The Gyroscope 41
from Night Flight: New York
“Believe that we bloom upon this stalk of time” 43
The Blood Is Justified 43

EDWARD WEISMILLER  The Deer Come Down (1936), vol. 35
Vermont: Spring Rains 46
Hemlocks in Autumn 47
Frog 48
Crystal Moment 48
Skull 49

MARGARET HALEY  The Gardener Mind (1937), vol. 36
Tropicalia 50

JOY DAVIDMAN  Letter to a Comrade (1938), vol. 37
Night-Piece 52
Lament for Evolution 53
And Pilate Said 55

REUEL DENNEY  The Connecticut River and Other Poems (1939), vol. 38
The Mathematician’s Dream 57
Building the Dam 58
Song 59
from Elegy on the Pilot
1. “Death in an ancient country was a simple passport” 59

NORMAN ROSTEN  Return Again, Traveler (1940), vol. 39
“We came during those years” 61
“I am immortal in Cheyenne!” 62
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Ingalls</td>
<td><em>The Metaphysical Sword</em> (1941)</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Vision of St. Michael and St. John</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apprehension</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gun Emplacement: Sundown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For the Intellectuals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Walker</td>
<td><em>For My People</em> (1942)</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Archibald MacLeish, Judge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Meredith</td>
<td><em>Love Letter from an Impossible Land</em></td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myself, Rousseau, a Few Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Traveling Boy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June: Dutch Harbor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles E. Butler</td>
<td><em>Cut Is the Branch</em> (1945)</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Letter to the Survivors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Other Places</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Darkness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eve Merriam</td>
<td><em>Family Circle</em> (1946)</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Wonderful Whale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(W. H. Auden, Judge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Murray</td>
<td><em>Poems</em> (1947)</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lullaby</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Here We Stand Before the Temporal World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An Epithalamium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There Has Been More Than Beginning and End</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to Face</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men and Women Have Meaning Only as Man</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Woman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>And As I Came Out from the Temples</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Horan</td>
<td><em>A Beginning</em> (1948)</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Little City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prometheus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soft Swimmer, Winter Swan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS

ROSALIE MOORE  The Grasshopper’s Man and Other Poems (1949), vol. 47
   The Mind’s Disguise 96
   Still Without Life 97
   Shipwreck 97
   Doors 98
   Dirge for the Living 99
   Ripeness Is Rapid 100
   Personal Atlas 101

ADRIENNE RICH  A Change of World (1951), vol. 48
   Storm Warnings 103
   Mathilde in Normandy 104
   At a Bach Concert 105

W. S. MERWIN  A Mask for Janus (1952), vol. 49
   Ballad of John Cable and Three Gentlemen 106
   Dictum: For a Masque of Deluge 110
   Carol (“On vague hills the prophet bird”) 112

EDGAR BOGARDUS  Various Jangling Keys (1953), vol. 50
   Narcissus to Echo 114

DANIEL HOFFMAN  An Armada of Thirty Whales (1954), vol. 51
   The Seals in Penobscot Bay 117
   An Armada of Thirty Whales 119
   At Provincetown 120
   Lobsterpot Labyrinths 121
   Ephemeridae 122

JOHN ASHERBY  Some Trees (1956), vol. 52
   The Instruction Manual 123
   The Young Son 126
   Some Trees 127
   The Painter 128
   The Pied Piper 129

JAMES WRIGHT  The Green Wall (1957), vol. 53
   The Horse 130
   A Presentation of Two Birds to My Son 132
   The Angel 133
CONTENTS

JOHN HOLLANDER  A Crackling of Thorns (1958), vol. 54
   Carmen Ancillae  136
   For Both of You, the Divorce Being Final  138
   Late August on the Lido  139
   Science and Human Behavior  140

WILLIAM Dickey  Of the Festivity (1959), vol. 55
   For Easter Island or Another Island  142
   The Plot  143
   Memoranda  143
   Cassandra  144

(DUDLEY FITTS, JUDGE)

GEORGE STARBUCK  Bone Thoughts (1960), vol. 56
   Technologies  146
   Communication to the City Fathers of Boston  147
   Prognosis  149

ALAN DUGAN  Poems (1961), vol. 57
   Prison Song  150
   Weeds as Partial Survivors  151
   Letter to Eve  151
   How We Heard the Name  152
   Actual Vision of Morning's Extrusion  153
   On the Elk, Unwitnessed  154

JACK GILBERT  Views of Jeopardy (1962), vol. 58
   Perspective He Would Mutter Going to Bed  155
   Malvolio in San Francisco  156
   The Abnormal Is Not Courage  158
   It Is Clear Why the Angels Come No More  159

SANDRA HOCHMAN  Manhattan Pastures (1963), vol. 59
   Manhattan Pastures  160
   Cannon Hill  161
   Sphinxes  162
   The Hairbrush  163

PETER DAVISON  The Breaking of the Day (1964), vol. 60
   The Star Watcher  164
   from The Breaking of the Day
      "The Birthright"  165
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Gift of Tongues&quot;</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Dead Sea&quot;</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Delphi&quot;</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JEAN VALENTINE</strong> Dream Barker (1965), vol. 61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lines in Dejection</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep Drops Its Nets</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset at Wellfleet</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To My Soul</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JAMES TATE</strong> The Lost Pilot (1967), vol. 62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming Down Cleveland Avenue</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Descent</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cages</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death on Columbus Day</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Book of Lies</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HELEN CHASIN</strong> Coming Close and Other Poems (1968), vol. 63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Communication with a UFO</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting the News</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUDITH JOHNSON SHERWIN</strong> Uranium Poems (1969), vol. 64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to Whom it may concern</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nightpiece</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(STANLEY KUNITZ, JUDGE)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUGH SEIDMAN</strong> Collecting Evidence (1970), vol. 65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tale of Genji</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Making of Color</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PETER KLAPPERT</strong> Lugging Vegetables to Nantucket (1971), vol. 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from Pieces of the One and a Half Legged Man</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Court of Divine Justice&quot;</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Whom</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memory of H. F.</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MICHAEL CASEY  *Obscenities* (1972), vol. 67
  On What the Army Does with Heads  197
  The LZ Gator Body Collector  198
  Learning  199

ROBERT HASS  *Field Guide* (1973), vol. 68
  Bookbuying in the Tenderloin  200
  After I Seized the Pentagon  201
  The Pornographer  202
  Measure  203
  Letter to a Poet  204

MICHAEL RYAN  *Threats Instead of Trees* (1974), vol. 69
  Talking About Things  205
  Your Own Image  205
  This Is a Poem for the Dead  206

MAURA STANTON  *Snow on Snow* (1975), vol. 70
  A Voice for the Sirens  208
  In Ignorant Cadence  209
  Judith Recalls Holofernes  210
  The Conjurer  211

CAROLYN FORCHÉ  *Gathering the Tribes* (1976), vol. 71
  Skin Canoes  213
  Ancapagari  214
  Kalaloch  214

OLGA BROUMAS  *Beginning with O* (1977), vol. 72
  Sometimes, as a Child  218
  Artemis  219
  Beauty and the Beast  220

(RICHARD HUGO, JUDGE)

BIN RAMKE  *The Difference Between Night and Day* (1978), vol. 73
  The Difference Between Night and Day  222
  Revealing Oneself to a Woman  223
  The Astronomer Works Nights: A Parable of Science  224

LESLEI ULLMAN  *Natural Histories* (1979), vol. 74
  Why There Are Children  227
Rain  
Memo  

WILLIAM VIRGIL DAVIS  One Way to Reconstruct the Scene (1980), vol. 75  
The Sleep of the Insomniac  
Spider  
In a Room  
Snow  

JOHN BENSKO  Green Soldiers (1981), vol. 76  
A Last Look in the Sambre Canal  
The Bones of Lazarus  
The Butterfly Net  

DAVID WOJAHN  Icehouse Lights (1982), vol. 77  
Distance  
Allegory: Attic and Fever  
The Inside  

CATHY SONG  Picture Bride (1983), vol. 78  
Ikebana  
The White Porch  
Spaces We Leave Empty  

(JAMES MERRILL, JUDGE)  

RICHARD KENNEY  The Evolution of the Flightless Bird (1984), vol. 79  
In April  
Sailing  
The Battle of Valcour Island  

PAMELA ALEXANDER  Navigable Waterways (1985), vol. 80  
A Marriage of Sorts  
A Well-Known Elizabethan Double Entendre  
Scherzo  

GEORGE BRADLEY  Terms to Be Met (1986), vol. 81  
E Pur Si Muove  

228  
229  
230  
231  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
240  
242  
244  
245  
247  
249  
252  
253  
254  
256
CONTENTS

JULIE AGOOS  *Above the Land* (1987), vol. 82
Portinaio 258
To Atlas in the Attic 260

BRIGIT PEGEEN KELLY  *To the Place of Trumpets* (1988),
vol. 83
The Leaving 262
The Visitation 263
To the Lost Child 264

THOMAS BOLT  *Out of the Woods* (1989), vol. 84
Meditation in Loudoun County 267
Glimpse of Terrain 268
from *The Way Out of the Wood*
"I crossed/Where chainlink fence" 268

DANIEL HALL  *Hermit with Landscape* (1990), vol. 85
Dusting 271
Hardy's "Shelley's Skylark" 272
Hermit with Landscape 272
X 273

(JAMES DICKEY, JUDGE)

CHRISTIANE JACOX KYLE  *Bears Dancing in the
Northern Air* (1991), vol. 86
Fire in Early Morning 275
The Season of Locking-In 276
The Argument 276

NICHOLAS SAMARAS  *Hands of the Saddlemaker* (1992),
vol. 87
Aubade: Macedonia 278
Translation 280

JODY GLADDING  *Stone Crop* (1993), vol. 88
Locust Shell 281
Worsted Heather 282
The Fisherman's Wife 282

VALERIE WOHLFELD  *Thinking the World Visible*
(1994), vol. 89
Sea 284
That Which Is Fugitive, That Which Is Medicinally Sweet or Alterable to Gold, That Which Is Substantiated by Unscientific Means

Visiting the Site of One of the First Churches My Grandfather Pastored
Leaving
Reunion

ELLEN HINSEY  *Cities of Memory* (1996), vol. 91
The Art of Measuring Light
The Body in Youth
The Roman Arbor

TALVIKKI ANSEL  *My Shining Archipelago* (1997), vol. 92
*from In Fragments, In Streams*
“"The Teatro Amazonas, remnant”
“"At night, coolness like water lapping”
“"Halley’s comet crossed the jungle sky”
“"Before first light, we would open the nets”
“"Along the road, the bright painted crosses”
“"Waking, months after I leave the jungle”

Credits
Index