Contents

Foreword by W. S. Merwin	ix
Acknowledgments	xiii
,	
1	
The Old Record	3
Photo of John Coltrane, 1963	5
Ellingtonia	6
Silver Gelatin	9
Scintillatingly Armstrong	10
The Throne of the Third Heaven of the	
Nations Millennium General Assembly	12
Robert Johnson (the film, the car ride, & the ghost)	13
"Musical shape is the memory of movement"	15
Who Can Stay the Bottles of Heaven?	17
Billie, Later	18
Frida Kahlo	21
The Fine Satin of the Eureka Brass Band	23
Lena Horne and Billy Strayhorn in Her Dressing Room	25
But Beautiful	26
The Clarinet	27
Inside the Keith Jarrett Trio	28
Transference of the Blues Dynamism	29
Susie Ibarra as a Butterfly	31
False Love	32

The Garden of Delights	35
Singer Finds His Own Name Among the Dead	37
"But truly I do fear it"	38
The Tiger Interior	39
Goat Moving Through a Boa Constrictor	41
The Exact Diagrams of German Professors	43
The Golem	45
A History of Ota Benga	46
Loss	50
The Burghers of Calais	51
Krekhtsn	52
Dear Singer,	56
S.S.S.S.	58
Bouquet with Flying Lovers	59
The Noise	60
Poem	62
Poem with Memories	63
Home	64
The Emotional Content of Inner Organs	65
Self	67
The Gift	68
A Significant Poem	69
Finding Love as an Equation	70
A Soul	71
Loss	72
The Vocal Fabric of the Soprano	73
"Dear heart, how like you this?"	74
It Moves So Slowly That It Does Not Move	75
Poem with Groucho Marx Refrains	76
Singer and Circumcision	77
The Sweet Obsession Bleeds from Singer	78
×	79
Notes	81