W. H. AUDEN’S REVISIONING PROCESS(III):

IN ‘Paid on Both Sides’ (1930), The Orators (1932),
The Dog Beneath the Skin (1935), The Ascent of F6 (1936),
Letters from Iceland (1937), AND Journey to a War (1939)

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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 = Poems (SHS, 1928; Faber & Faber, 1930, first edition; 1933, second edition)
O = The Orators (Faber & Faber, 1932)
O₂ *= The Orators (Faber & Faber, 1934, second edition)
O₃ = The Orators (Faber & Faber, 1966, third edition)
DBS = The Dog Beneath the Skin (Faber & Faber, 1935)
DBS₂ = The Dog Beneath the Skin (Faber Paper Covered Edition, 1968)
AF6 * = The Ascent of F6 (Faber & Faber, 1936)
AF6₂ = The Ascent of F6 (Faber & Faber, 1937, revised edition)

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AF63 = The Ascent of F6 (Faber Paper Covered Edition, 1958; with On the Frontier)

LF1 = Letters from Iceland (Faber & Faber, 1937)


JW = Journey to a War (Faber & Faber, 1939)

JW2 = Journey to a War (Faber Paper Covered Edition, 1973, revised edition)

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)

My special thanks are due to Professor Edward Mendelson of Yale University, Literary Executor of the Estate of the late W.H. Auden, for his helpful advice and continual encouragement. I am as before indebted to W.H. Auden: A Bibliography (1972) edited by B.C. Bloomfield and Edward Mendelson for its information on the printed versions of the poems compared below.

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

[Criterrion, 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 termers 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

[Criterrion, 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-consideraton.)
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.’ C-50; 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, 30]
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.
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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 over 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.
15 *The band roars 32: The band roars, 38: The band roars 45-66:
The ban roars (66) (apparently a misprint).

We have brought you, they said, a map of the country;
[O, 46-48; O₂⁺; 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 1, 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:
Heard 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 arrête (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).
62 —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. 60

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. 65

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. 32, 38; (66).

(62 We shall grow no more. (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 pfwungg 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: Certain, all of us, of what happened but not from the records, 58:
   Perfectly certain, all of us, but not from the records, 66, (66), 68.
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,
As our might lessens." NS: /As our might lessens'': 32-58: /As our might lessens: 66, (66), 68.

their shout 'we will fight NS-38; (66): their shout "We will fight 45-68.


the feinted retreat NS: the feinted retreat; 32-68.

As husband true; NS: /As husband true, 32-68


austerer than us; NS: austerer than us, 32-68.

*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.

keeping the outposts; NS: keeping the outposts, 32-68.

*and somewhere Lust/With his sapper's skill, NS-58; (66):

and somewhere Lust,/That skilful sapper, 66, 68.

*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):)

on the look-out: NS: on the look-out, 32-68.

through a doorway, NS-38: through a doorway. 45, 50: through a doorway, 58: through a doorway 66, (66), 68.

at last: NS: at last; 32-68.

we imagined, NS-45: we imagined. 50: we imagined, 58: we imagined 66, 68.

Worried for weeks, NS: /Worried for weeks; 32-68.

we were never told; NS: we were never told, 32-68.

They will never reveal, though kept NS:

They will never reveal though kept 32-68.

"Death to the squealer." NS: /'Death to the squealer': 32-50: /

/'Death to the squealer'; 58: /'Death to the squealer': 66, (66), 68.

it is unsafe there; NS: it is unsafe there, 32-68.

that area is closed: NS: that area is closed; 32-68.

at the climbers' junction; NS: at the climbers' Junction, 32-68.

*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,

[O, 116, 'Epilogue'; O₂; SP 1938, 'Epilogue'; SP 1940, '6'; CP, 'Songs and Other
Musical Pieces, XXV; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'The Three Companions'; CSP 1966,
'Five Songs, V'; O₃, 102, 'Epilogue'; SP 1968, 'O Where Are You Going')
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 Pauls 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.
     (Frisian 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.

45 Come in. 35, 38: /Come in; 45-66.

54 *Tell your stories 35, 38: Tell you stories 45, 50: Tell your stories 66.

55 *Tell your stories 35, 38: /Tell your stories; 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.

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.

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;

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,...
(15)  W.H. AUDEN’S REVISIONING PROCESS(III)  15

[DBS, 54–56, ‘Chorus’; The Year’s Poetry 1935; SP 1938, ‘Chorus’; DBS₂]
(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 trumpeting 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 throughfare: 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,
[Lyssistrata, May 1935*; DBS, 65; CP, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXIX’;
CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Five Songs, IV’; DBS₂]
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’, II. 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 shearpeter? 35:
Knows to the bar when death shall cut him short like the cry of the shearpeter, 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.
W.H. AUDEN'S REVISING PROCESS(III)

7 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in italics) 50.
9 today 35: to-day 50.
14 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in italics) 50.
20 matched in beauty and desire: 35: matched in beauty and desire; 50.
21 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in intalics) 50.
24 tonight 35: to-night 50.
26 tonight 35: to-night 50.
28 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in italics) 50.
34 Tonight 35: To-night 50.
35 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in italics) 50.
36 today, 35: to-day, 50.
39 Tonight 35: To-night 50.
42 Fill up glasses with champagne and drink again. 35: (in italics) 50.

THE ASCENT OF F6(1936)

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.
13 The stars are not wanted now, put out every one; 38:
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 Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun; 38-66, (the sun, 40:)
15 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,

[AF6*: AF6₂, 120-121; CP, ‘Songs and Other Musical Pieces, II’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, ‘Twelve Songs, VIII’]

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

JOURNEY TO ICHELAND (1937)

(Capitalizations at the head of lines are discarded in the CSP 1966 version except where sentences begin. YP designates The Year’s Poetry 1937 version below.)

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

[Listener, 7 October 1936, ‘Journey to Iceland’; The Year’s Poetry 1937; LfI, 25-27, ‘Journey to Iceland/A letter to Christopher Isherwood, Esq.’; SP 1938; SP 1940; CP, ‘Journey to Iceland’; CSP 1950; CSP 1966; LfI₂, 23-24, ‘Journey to Iceland/A letter to Christopher Isherwood, Esq.’]

1-2 *And the traveller hopes: ‘Let me be far from any
Physician’; And the ports have names for the sea; 36-50:

(2 Physician’; And 36-40: Physician.’ And YP: Physician’; and 45, 50.

the sea: 36: the sea; 37-40: the sea, 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 67.

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.

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 Lf_1 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? O 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.

(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,

([Lfl, 122, ‘Detective Story’; CSP 1966, ‘Detective Story’; Lfl2, 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; LfI, 143(no title); The Year's Poetry 1937, 'Poem'; CP, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXVII'; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'The Price'; LfI2, 141)

(The LfI2 version completely agrees with the LfI1 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'; LfI, 227-229(no title); SP 1938; CP, 'Songs And Other Musical Pieces, XXVI'; CSP 1950; SP 1958, 'The Dead Echo'; CSP 1966; LfI2, 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.
3 **At native shore NS, YP: 'On native shore 37-66.
5 *Fathers, grandfathers stood upon this land, NS-58:
   Father, grandfather stood upon this land, 66.
6 *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.
8 hey-day; NS, YP: heyday: 37-58: hey-day: 66.
9 *But death's NS, YP: But Death's 37-66.
   *soft answer NS-58: low answer 66.
11 Or an unlucky May: NS, YP: Or an unlucky May. 37-66.
11/12 (stanza break) NS(?): (no stanza break) YP: (stanza break) 37, 38:
   (no stanza break) 45-66.
12 inside it NS-38: inside it, 45-66.
13 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
14 a bailiff’s order NS-38: a bailiff’s order, 45-66.
19 and the bathing beach; NS, YP: and the bathing beach, 37-66.
22 think in their hearts NS, YP: think in their hearts, 37-66.
24 from their constant humour, NS, YP: from their constant humour: 37-66.
25 *And slyly NS, YP: And shyly 37, 38: And slyly 45-66.
   *death’s coercive rumour NS, YP: Death’s coercive rumour 37-66.
26 *In the silence starts. NS-58: /In that moment starts. 66.
26/27 (stanza break) NS-38: (no stanza break) YP: (no stanza break) 45-66.
28 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
29 disgraceful NS-38: disgraceful, 45-66.
30 *Change the partner and dance while you can. NS, YP:
   Change your partner, dance while you can. 37-66.
33 and me; NS, YP: and me. 37-66.
34 Our grass is green and NS, YP: Our grass is green, and 37-66.
38 *Till his storm of pleasure dies: NS-58: (dies; NS, YP:)
   Till the storm of pleasure dies: 66.
41 And his voice replies: NS, YP: And his voice replies. 37-66.
41/42 (stanza break) NS, 37, 38: (no s.b.) YP: (no s.b.) 45-66.
42 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.
43 the best for man NS-38: the best for man; 45-66.
44 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,
   ‘Sonnetts 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

(JW, 19, 'The Sphinx': SP 1940, 'Three Sonnets, 1'; CP; CSP 1950; SP 1958;
CSP 1966, 'A Voyage: III. The Sphinx'; JW2, 'A Voyage: III. The Sphinx')

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.

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:

(The Listener, 18 August 1938, 'The Ship'; JW, 20, 'The Ship'; CP; CSP 1950;
CSP 1966, 'A Voyage: II. The Ship'; JW2, 'A Voyage: II. THE SHIP')
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:)
go to bed, 38: go to bed 39-50: go 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


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

JW2, '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;
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,
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; JW2, ‘In Time of War, VI’]

2-3 *The rivers flooded or the Empire fell:
A river flooded or a fortress 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—

1 —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:(6 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,
[JW, 266, 'In Time of War, VIII'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from
China, VIII'; SP 1968; JW, 'In Time of War, VIII']

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
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

1 *And the age ended, 36-45: And the aged ended, 50: So an age ended, 58-73.
2 *of the giant’s enormous calf 36-50: of a giant’s enormous calf 58-73.
3 *Would fall no longer now 36: Would fall no more at dusk 39-73.
4 *across the lawn outside. 36-50: across their lawns outside. 58-73.
5 *No, not again. In marshes here and there, no doubt, 36:
They slept in peace: in marshes here and there, no doubt 39-73.
6 to a natural death; 36: to a natural death, 39-73.
7 *But in a year the spoor had vanished 36-58: But in a year the slot had vanished 66-73.
8 *The kobbold’s knocking 36: The kobbold’s knocking 39-50:
A kobbold’s knocking 58-73.
9 *Only the sculptors and musicians 36: Only the sculptors and the poets 39-73.
10 *at the magician’s house 36: from the magician’s house 39-73.
12 and free; 36: and free; 39-50: and free; 58-73.
13 *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']

1 *let the song mount 39-50: let song mount 66-73.
2 *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.
3 weeping, and 39-50: weeping and 66-73.
4 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.
5 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;
   To our hope its warning. One star has warmed to birth
   One puzzled species that has yet to prove its worth:
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; JW, '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:
   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; JW, '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:

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.

4/5 (no stanza break) 38: (stanza break) 39-73.

6 *perished in his skull; 38-50: perished in that skull; 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.

11-12 *that your daughters/Be fit to love the earth, 38:
   that our daughters//Be fit to love the earth, 39-50:
   that our daughters//=Might keep their upright carriage, 66-73.

11/12 (no stanza break) 38: (stanza break) 39-73.

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;


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;


(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, distempered, 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
[JW, 280, 'In Time of War, XXII'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XVII'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, XVII']
The elementary language of the heart, 39-50:
The elementary rhythms of the heart, 66-73.
*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.
*and the lovers soon to part 39-50: and the lovers bound to part 66-73.
in our position; 39-50: in our position, 66-73.
*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.
what pleased the dancers best: 39-50:
what pleased the daners best, 66-73.
*When Austria died and China was forsaken, 39-50:
When Austria died, when China was forsaken, 66-73.
and Teruel retaken, 39-50: and Teruel re-taken. 66-73.
*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.
before the world; 39: before the world: 45-73.
*‘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
[JW, 281, 'In Time of War, XXIII'; CP; CSP 1950; CSP 1966, 'Sonnets from China, XIX'; SP 1968; JW₂, 'In Time of War, XIX']
*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:
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; JW2, ‘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; JW\textsubscript{2}, 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 JW\textsubscript{1}(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,
112-117 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 NV, ll. 30-35.

('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, 39-50; 73.

(116 *in that act 39, 45: in the act 50.)

124-128 Fear builds intrusive as a sill
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 NV, ll. 44-50.

('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, parting/
All that we feel from all that we perceive,
Desire from Data; and the Thirteen gay Companions 39-50; 73.

162 Ch’in Shih Huang Ti who burnt 39; 73:
Ch’in Shih Huang Ti, who burnt 45, 50.

163 Chaka the mad who segregated 39; 73:
Chaka the mad, who segregated 45, 50.

164 And Genghis Khan who thought 39; 73:
And Genghis Khan, who thought 45, 50.

145-147 By wire and wireless, in a score of bad translations,
They give their simple message to the world of man:
‘Man can have Unity if Man will give up Freedom. 39-50:

(the 49th stanza, moved after the 51st stanza) 73.

148-150 *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. 39-50.

(150 thinking, 50.) (the 50th stanza, cut) 73.

156 like a cirque of mountains, 39-50: like a cirque of mountains. 73.

157-159 *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, 39-50,
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(157) *Your ignorance 45, 50.* (the 53rd stanza, cut) 73.

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.

183 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.

(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 can life be mastered; 39-50: can life be mastered.* 73.

247-249 *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.

267 *Or hum of printing-presses 39-45; 73: Of hum of printing presses 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.

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.