

W. H. Auden's Revising Process (X) : *Look, Stranger!* (1936) / *On This Island* (1937)

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INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The present list is the corrected and amplified version of the second part of "A Study of W. H. Auden's Textual Revision of the Poems included in *Poems* (1933) and *Look, Stranger!* (1936)" published in the *Annual Report*, vol. XXXIV (1974), of the Faculty of Education, University of Iwate. This earlier version was unsatisfactory in failing to give a whole line in which a variant reading occurs, and also in involving five careless omissions; besides, I could not examine the *On This Island* text in making the list.

The first line of each poem given at the head of the lists is from the *Look, Stranger!* first edition text. The abbreviations given in square brackets under the first line are as follows (and only the numerals are used, to show the publication date of each reading, after a line or a variant reading):

- LS = *Look, Stranger!* (Faber & Faber, 1936)
- OTI = *On This Island* (Random House, 1937)
- SP 38 = *Selected Poems* (Faber & Faber, 1938)
- SP 40 = *Some Poems* (Faber & Faber, 1940)
- CP 45 = *Collected Poetry* (Random House, 1945)
- CSP 50 = *Collected Shorter Poems: 1930-1944* (Faber & Faber, 1950)
- SP 58 = *W. H. Auden, A Selection by the Author* (Penguin Books, 1958)
- SP 59 = *Selected Poetry of W. H. Auden* (Random House, 1959)
- CSP 66 = *Collected Shorter Poems: 1927-1957* (Faber & Faber, 1966)
- SP 68 = *Selected Poems* (Faber & Faber, 1968)
- CP 76 = *Collected Poems* (Random House/Faber & Faber, 1976)
- CP 78 = *Collected Poems* (Random House, second printing, 1978)

In the list, every line involving a verbal change is asterisked. Where the change is in punctuation or in spelling, a whole line is cited from the text, and the variant reading is given in round brackets after or under the line.

I am very grateful to Prof. Edward Mendelson of Columbia University for his kindness in providing me with a xeroxed copy of the first edition of *On This Island*.

October 1, 1988 Y. S. Y.

A collation of the OTI text against that of LS revealed that seventeen variant readings occur in the former, of which most seem to be mere misprints, but several verbal changes enter into the later collections.

O love, the interest itself in thoughtless Heaven,
 [*New Statesman*, 16 July 1932, 'Poem'; *New Country* (1933), 'Prologue'; LS,
 'I. PROLOGUE'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Perhaps'; CSP 1950]

Out on the lawn I lie in bed,

[*Listener*, 7 March 1934, 'Summer Night'; LS, 'II/(*To Geoffrey Hoyland*)'; OTI; SP
 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'A Summer Night 1933'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'A Summer Night';
 CP 76/78]

1 34-78. (in bed 34:)

2-3 Vega conspicuous overhead/In the windless nights of June; 34-78.

(June 34: June, 45-78.)

4-5 *Forests of green have done complete/The day's activity; my feet 34-40:

As congregated leaves complete/Their day's activity; my feet 45-78.

7-8 Lucky, this point in time and space/Is chosen as my working place; 34-78.

(working place 34: working-place, 45-78.)

11-12 *The leisured drives through a land of farms,/Are good to the newcomer.

(farms/ 45-78. *to a newcomer. 66-78.) 34-78.

14-15 I sit on each calm evening,/Enchanted as the flowers 34-78.

(evening 45-78.)

16 The opening light draws out of hiding 34-78. (*lights 50:)

17 *From leaves with all its dove-like pleading 34-40:

With all its gradual dove-like pleading, 45-78.

18 Its logic and its powers. 34-78. (powers 45, 50: powers: 66-78.)

19-21 That later we, though parted then/May still recall these evenings when/Fear
 gave his watch no look; 34-78. (19 then, 45-78.)

22-24 The lion grieves loped from the shade/And on our knees their muzzles laid,
 And Death put down his book. 34-78. (24 book 45, 50:)

25-30 (the fifth stanza, dropped) 45-78.

31 Now North and South and East and West 34-40:

Now north and south and east and west 45-78.

32 Those I love lie down to rest; 34-78. (rest 34:)

33 The moon looks on them all: 34-78. (all; 34: all, 45-78.)

34 The healers and the brilliant talkers, 34-78. (talkers 45-76:)

37 She climbs the European sky; 34-78. (sky, 45-78.)

38-39 *Churches and power stations lie/Alike among earth's fixtures: 34-78.

(*power-station 45, 50: power-stations 66-78.)

40 Into the galleries she peers, 34-78. (peers 45-78.)

41 *And blankly as an orphan stares 34-40:

And blankly as a butcher stares 45-78.

42 Upon the marvellous pictures. 34-78. (pictures 45, 50:)

- 43-44 To gravity attentive, she/Can notice nothing here; 34-78. (here, 45-78.)
- 44-45 *though we/Whom hunger cannot move, 34-40: (move 34:)
 though we/Whom hunger does not move, 45-78.
- 46-48 From gardens where we feel secure/Look up, and with a sigh endure/The
 tyrannies of love: 34-78. (Look up 34; 45-78.)
- 49-51 And, gentle, do not care to know./Where Poland draws her Eastern bow,/
 What violence is done; 34-78. (And gentle 34: know 34:
 her eastern bow 34: her eastern bow, 45-78. is done, 45-78.)
- 55-72 *34-40. (the tenth to twelfth stanzas, dropped) 45-78.
- 73 *Soon through the dykes of our content 34-40:
 Soon, soon, through dykes of our content 45-78.
- 74 The crumpling flood will force a rent, 34-78. (rent 34; 45-78.)
- 75 And taller than a tree 34: / And, taller than a tree, 36-78.
- 76-78 Hold sudden death before our eyes/Whose river-dreams long hid the size/And
 vigours of the sea 34-78. (our eyes, 34: river dreams 45-78.)
- 79-81 But when the waters make retreat/And through the black mud first the wheat
 /In shy green stalks appears; 34-78. (appears, 45-78.)
- 82-84 When stranded monsters gasping lie,/And sounds of riveting terrify/Their
 whorled unsubtle ears: 34-78. (*rivetting 34: ears, 45-78.)
- 85-86 *May this for which we dread to lose/Our privacy, need no excuse 34-40:
 May these delights we dread to lose./This privacy, need no excuse 45-78.
- 87 But to that strength belong; 34-78. (belong, 45-78.)
- 89 *The drowned voice of his parents rise 34-40: (*voices 34:)
 The drowned parental voices rise 45-78.
- 91 After discharges of alarm, 34-78. (alarm 34; 45-78.)
- 92-93 *All unpredicted may it calm/The pulse of nervous nations; 34-40:
 All unpredicted let them calm/The pulse of nervous nations, 45-78.
- 95-96 *Tough in its patience to surpass/The tigress her swift motions. 34-40:
 Tough in their patience to surpass/The tigress her swift motions. 45-78.

Our hunting fathers told the story

[*Listener*, 30 May 1934, 'Poem'; LS, 'III'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'In Father's
 Footsteps'; CSP 50, 'Our Hunting Fathers'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

- 6 Behind the quarry's dying glare, 34-78. (glare 34:)
- 11-12 Who nurtured in that fine tradition/Predicted the result, 34-38:
 Who, nurtured in that fine tradition,/Predicted the result, 45-78.
- 13-14 *Guessed love by nature suited to/The intricate ways of guilt? 34-78.
 (Love 34; 45-78. guilt; 34; guilt, 45-78.)
- 15-16 *That human company could so/His southern gestures modify 34:
 That human ligaments could so/His southern gestures modify, 36-78.

(modify 45-78.)

Let the florid music praise,

[LS, 'IV. SONG'; OTI; CP 1945, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XIII'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, III'; CP 76/78]

1 36-50: *Let a florid music praise, 66-78.

10-11 The weeping and striking,/Always; 36-78. (Always: 45-78.)

11 time will bring their hour: 36-78. (hour; 45-78.)

12-14 Their secretive children walk/Through your vigilance of breath/To unpardonable death, 36-78. (Death, 66-78.)

Look, stranger, at this island now

[*Listener*, 18 December 1935, 'Seaside'; *Living Age*, June 1936; LS, 'V'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XIV'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'Seascape'; CSP 66, 'On This Island'; CP 76/78]

(*LA* stands for the *Living Age* reading below.)

1 35-40: *Look, stranger, on this island now 45-78.

8 *Here at the small field's ending pause 35-78.

(at a small field's ending 58/59; 78.)

9 Where the chalk wall falls to the foam, and its tall ledges 35-78.

(to the foam 45-78.)

12-13 *And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/ing surf, and the gull lodges

(after the sucking surf, and the gull lodges *LA*:) 34-40:

And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/ing surf,/And the gull lodges

(*And a gull 58/59:) 45-76:

And the shingle scrambles after the suck-/ing surf, and a gull lodges 78.

15-16 the ships/Diverge on urgent voluntary errands; 35-78. (errands, 45-78.)

17-19 *And the full view/Indeed may enter/And move in memory 35-78.

(*And this full view 58/59; 78.)

O what is that sound which so thrills the ear

[*New Verse*, December 1934, 'Ballad'; LS, 'VI'; OTI; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXIV'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'The Quarry', CSP 66, 'O What is that Sound'; SP 68; CP 76, 'O What is That Sound'; CP 78, 'O What Is That Sound']

9 O what are they doing with all that gear; 34-78. (gear, 45-78.)

11 *Only the usual manoeuvres, dear, 34-37:

Only their usual manoeuvres, dear, 45-78.

13 O why have they left the road down there; 34-78. (there, 45-78.)

15 *Perhaps a change in the orders, dear; 34-37:

Perhaps a change in their orders, dear. 45-66.

- 17 O haven't they stopped for the doctor's care; 34-78. (care, 45-78.)
- 21 O is it the parson they want with white hair; 34-78.
(they want, 34; 45-78. hair, 45-78.)
- 25 O it must be the farmer who lives so near; 34-78. (near, 34: near. 45-78.)
- 26 *It must be the farmer so cunning, so cunning? 34-78.
(the farmer, 34: *so cunning, cunning; 34:)
- 27 *They have passed the farm already, dear, 34-37:
They have passed the farmyard already, dear, 45-78.
- 29 O where are you going? stay with me here! 34-78. (Stay 45-78. here. 34:)
- 30 *Were the vows you swore me deceiving, deceiving? 34-37:
Were the vows you swore deceiving, deceiving? 45-78.
- 35 *Their feet are heavy on the floor 34-37:
Their boots are heavy on the floor 45-78.

Hearing of harvests rotting in the valleys,

[The second of 'Two Poems', *Criterion*, July 1933; LS, 'VII'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'Paysage Moralisé'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

- 1 *33-78. (*of harvest 33: valleys 50:)
- 5 We honour founders of these starving cities, 33-78. (cities 45-78.)
- 6 Whose honour is the image of our sorrow. 33-78. (sorrow, 45-78.)
- 9 Dreaming of evening walks through learned cities, 33-78. (cities 45-78.)
- 12 *Visions of green to them who craved for water. 33; 45-78.
Visions of green to them that craved for water. 36-38:
- 16 Where everyday was dancing in the valleys, 33-78. (valleys 33; 45-78.)
- 17 *And all the year trees blossomed on the mountains, 33-38:
And all the green trees blossomed on the mountains 45-78. (mountains, 66-78.)
- 20 No marvellous creature rose up from the water, 33-78. (water; 45-78.)
- 21 There was still gold and silver in the mountains, 33-78. (mountains 45-78.)
- 22 And hunger was a more immediate sorrow; 33-78. (sorrow, 45-78.)
- 23 *Although to moping villagers in valleys 33-50; 78.
Although to moping villages in valleys 66, 76:
- 24 Some waving pilgrims were describing islands. 33-78. (islands... 45-78.)
- 26 *Are stalking head-up, lovely through the cities; 33-38:
Are stalking, head-up, lovely, through our cities; 45-78.
- 28 And sail with them across the lime-green water; 33-78. (water, 33; 45-78.)
- 29 *Sitting at their white sides, forget your sorrow, 33; 45-78.
Sitting at their white sides, forget their sorrow, 36-38:
- 30 The shadow cast across your lives by mountains.' 33-78.
(by mountains" 45: by mountains' 50:)
- 31 So many, doubtful, perished in the mountains 33-78. (mountains, 45-78.)

- 32 Climbing up crags to get a view of islands; 33-78. (islands, 45-78.)
 34 Which stayed them when they reached unhappy cities; 33-78. (cities, 45-78.)
 35 So many, careless, dived and drowned in water; 33-78. (water, 45-78.)
 37 *It is the sorrow; shall it melt? 33-38:
 It is our sorrow. Shall it melt? 45-78.
 37-38 *Ah, water/Would gush, flush, green these mountains and these valleys, 33-50:
 (valleys 37:)
 Then water/Would gush, flush, green these mountains and these valleys, 66-78.

Now the leaves are falling fast,

[*New Statesman*, 14 March 1936, 'Poem'; LS, 'VIII'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XVIII'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'Autumn Song'; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, VI'; SP 68, 'Autumn Song'; CP 76/78, 'Twelve Songs, VI. AUTUMN SONG']
 (NS stands for the *New Statesman* reading below.)

- 2 Nurse's flowers will not last; NS-78. (last, 66-78.)
 3 *Nurses to the graves are gone, NS-50:
 Nurses to their graves are gone, 58-78.
 5 Whispering neighbours, left and right, NS-78.
 (neighbours 66-78. right 66-78.)
 6 *Pluck us from the real delight; NS-50:
 Pluck us from our real delight; 58/59:
 Daunt us from our true delight, 66-78.
 7 *And the active hands must freeze NS-50:
 And our active hands must freeze 58/59:
 Able hands are left to freeze 66:
 Able hands are forced to freeze 68-78.
 8 *Lonely on the separate knees. NS-50:
 Lonely on our separate knees, 58/59:
 Derelict on lonely knees. 66-78.
 9-10 *Dead in hundreds at the back/Follow wooden in our track, NS-59:
 (*at our back NS:)
 Close behind us on our track,/Dead in hundreds cry Alack, 66-78.
 13-14 *Starving through the leafless wood NS-59: (wood, NS:)
 Scrawny through a plundered wood, 66-78.
 14 Trolls run scolding for their food; NS-78. (food, 66-78.)
 15 *And the nightingale is dumb, NS-59: /Owl and nightingale are dumb, 66-78.
 17-18 *Cold, impossible, ahead/Lifts the mountain's lovely head 36-59:
 (head, NS:)
 Clear, unscaleable, ahead/Rise the Mountains of Instead, 66-78.
 19-20 *Whose white waterfall could bless/Travellers in their last distress. NS-59:

(*waterfalls NS:)

From whose cold cascading streams/None may drink except in dreams. 66-78.

The earth turns over, our side feels the cold,

[*New Verse*, February 1934, 'Poem'; LS, 'IX'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Through the Looking-Glass'; CSP 50, 'Through the Looking Glass'; CSP 66, 'Through the Looking-Glass'; CP 76/78]

1 34-50: (over; 45, 50: cold; 45, 50:)

*Earth has turned over; our side feels the cold, 66-78.

2 And life sinks choking in the wells of trees; 34-78.

(trees: 45, 50: trees, 66-78.)

3 *The ticking heart comes to a standstill, killed, 34-50: (killed; 45, 50:)

A faint heart here and there stops ticking, killed, 66-78

4 *The icing on the pond waits for its boys. 34:

The icing on the pond waits for the boys. 36-50:

Icing on ponds entrances village boys: 66-78.

5 *Among the holly and the gifts I move, 34-50:

Among wreathed holly and wrapped gifts I move, 66-78.

6 *The carols on the piano, the glowing hearth, 34-50:

Old carols on the piano, a glowing hearth, 66-78.

7 *All our traditional sympathy with birth, 34-40; 66-78.

All on traditional sympathy with birth, 45, 50:

8 *Put by your challenge to the shifts of love. 34-78. (of Love. 45, 50:)

9 Your portrait hangs before me on the wall 34-78. (wall; 34: wall, 45-78.)

10 And there what view I wish for, I shall find, 34-78. (wish for 45-78.)

11 The wooded or the stony— 34-78. (stony, 34; 45-78.)

11-12 *though not all/The painter's gifts can make its flatness round— 34-78.

(*The painters gifts 34: round; 45-78.)

13 *Through the blue irises the heaven of failures, 34-40:

Though each blue iris see the heaven of failures, 45, 50:

Through each blue iris greet the heaven of failures, 66-78.

14 *The mirror world where logic is reversed, 34-50:

That mirror world where Logic is reversed, 45-78.

15 *When age becomes the handsome child at last, 34:

Where age becomes the handsome child at last, 36-78.

16 *The glass sea parted for the country sailors. 34-50: (sailors 45, 50:)

The glass wave parted for the country sailors. 66-78.

17 *Where move the enormous comics, drawn from life; 34-40:

There move the enormous comics, drawn from life— 45-78.

19 My mother chasing letters with a knife: 34-78. (knife. 45-78.)

- 20 You are not present as a character. 34-78.
(character— 34: character; 45-78.)
- 21 Only the family have speaking parts. 34:
—Only the family have speaking parts— 36-40:
(Only the family have speaking parts). 45-78.
- 22 You are a valley or a river bend, 34-78. (a river-bend, 45-78.)
- 23 The one an aunt refers to as a friend, 34-78. (an Aunt 34:)
- 24 *The tree from which the weasel racing starts. 34-78. (*weazel 34:)
- 25 *False; but no falser than the world it matches, 34-40:
Behind me roars the other world it matches, 45, 50:
Behind me roars that other world it matches, 66-78.
- 27 *The total state where all must wear your badges, 34-40:
His total state where all must wear your badges 45-78. (badges, 66-78.)
- 28 Keep order perfect as a naval school: 34-78. (school. 45-78.)
- 29 Noble emotions organized and massed 34-40: (*organised 34:)
Noble emotions, organized and massed, 45-78.
- 31 To cheer your image as it flashes by; 34-78. (by, 45-78.)
- 34 *And family affection the one in cypher; 34-40:
And family affection speaks in cypher. 45-78.
- 36 *That comfort to the homesick children offer: 34-40: (offer, 34:)
That comfort to its homesick children offer, 45-78.
- 38 *Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a room, 34:
Son of a nurse and doctor, loaned a dream, 36-40:
Unable to choose either for a home, 45-78.
- 40 *In the great bed at midnight to your arms. 34-50: (arms 45, 50:)
In a great bed at midnight to your arms. 66-78.
- 43 *And time flies on above the dreamer's head, 34-40:
While time flies on above the dreamer's head, 45-78.
- 44 Flies on, flies on, and with your beauty flies. 34-78. (flies, 45-78.)
- 45-46 *All things he takes and loses but conceit,/The Alec who can buy the life
within, 34-40: (conceit; 34: *This Alec still can buy 34:)
And pride succeeds to each succeeding state,/Still able to buy up the life
within, 45-78.
- 49 Language of moderation cannot hide; 34-78. (hide 34: hide:— 45-78.)
- 50 *My sea is empty and the waves are rough: 34-40:
My sea is empty and its waves are rough; 45-78.
- 51 Gone from the map the shore where childhood played 34-78. (played, 45-78.)
- 53 *Lost in my wake my archipelago, 34:
Lost in my wake the archipelago, 36-78.
- 54 Islands of self through which I sailed all day, 34-78. (all day 45-78.)

55 *Planting a pirate's flag, a generous boy; 34-78. (*a generous bay; 34:)

56 *And lost the way to action and to you. 34-50:

And lost my way to action and to you. 66-78.

57-58 *Lost if I steer. Gale of desire may blow/Sailor and ship 34-40:

Lost if I steer. Tempest and tide may blow/Sailor and ship 45-78.

60 *Birth of a natural order and of love; 34-40:

The birth of natural order and true love: 45-78.

Now from my window-sill I watch the night

[*New Country*, 1933, Part II of 'A Happy New Year'; LS, 'X'; OTI; CP 45, 'Not All the Candidates Pass'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'The Watchers'; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

1 33-78. (night, 45-78.)

5 *The jets in both the dormitories are out. 33-50:

The lights of near-by families are out. 58-78.

7-8 The lilac bush like a conspirator/Shams dead upon the lawn and there 33-78.

(upon the lawn, 45-78.)

11-20 (the third and fourth stanzas) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.

21-22 O Lords of limit, training dark and light/And setting a tabu 'twixt left and right: 33-78. (of Limit, 45-78. and right, 45-78.)

23-24 The influential quiet twins/From whom all property begins, 33-78.

(begins 33:)

25 Look leniently upon us all to-night. 33-78. (tonight. 45:)

26-30 (the sixth stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.

31 No one has seen you. None can say of late, 33-78. (you: none 45-78.

say; —"Of late— 45, 50: say; 'Of late— 58-66: say, 'Of late 76:

say, 'Of late— 78.)

32 'Here—you can see the marks—they lay in wait.' 33-37: ("Here— 33:)

Here. You can see the marks—They lay in wait." 45-78. (in wait,' 58-78.)

33-34 *But in my thought to-night you seem/Forms which I saw once in a dream,

(*in my thoughts 37-78. tonight 45:)

33-78.

36 With guns beneath your arms, in sun and wet 33-78. (and wet, 45-78.)

41-45 (the ninth stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.

46 Look not too closely, be not over-quick; 33-78. (over quick 33:)

48-49 Using the mole's device, the carriage/Of peacock 33-78. (Using, 33:)

50 *For we shall only pass you by a trick. 33-37:

And we shall only pass you by a trick. 45-78.

50/51 (three stanzas) 33. (dropped) 36-78.

51-55 (the eleventh stanza) 33-50. (dropped) 58-78.

56-65 (the twelfth and thirteenth stanzas) 33-37. (dropped) 45-78.

67-68 *And what if the starving visionary have seen/The carnival 33-37:

What if the starving visionary have seen/The carnival 45-78.

- 70-71 *use it, that none//O from this table break uncontrollably away 33-37:
 use it, that none, //O, from their tables break uncontrollably away, 45-78.
- 73-74 *Dangerous in the room, or out wild—/—ly spinning like a top in the field,
 (in the room 33: *in a room 58-78. 33-78.
 wildly/Spinning 45: wild-/—ly spinning 50-78.)

Just as his dream foretold, he met them all:

[*Bryanston Saga*, Summer 1934, 'Poem'*; LS, 'XI'; OTI; CP 45, 'Nobody Understands Me'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'A Misunderstanding'; CP 76/78]

- 6-7 *the deaf girl too/Seemed to expect him at the green chateau; 36-78.
 (at the green château; 50: *at her green chateau; 66-78.)
- 8 *The meal was laid, the guest room full of flowers. 36-78.
 (*A meal 66-78. the guest-room 66-78.)
- 9 *More, the talk always took the wished-for turn, 36-78. (their talk 66-78.)
- 10 *Dwelt on the need for stroking and advice; 36-50:
 Dwelt on the need for someone to advise, 66-78.
- 11 Yet, at each meeting, he was forced to learn, 36-78. (learn 66-78.)
- 13-14 Were they or he/The physician, bridegroom and incendiary? 36-78.
 (bridegroom, 45, 50:)

As it is, plenty;

[LS, 'XII'; OTI; CP 45, 'His Excellency'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

- 2-3 As it's admitted/The children happy 36-78. (happy, 66-78.)
- 4-5 And the car, the car/That goes so far 36-78. (far, 45-78.)
- 12-13 All that was thought/As like as not, is not; 36-78. (as not 45-66:)
- 14-15 When nothing was enough/But love, but love 36-78. (but love, 45-78.)
- 16-17 *And the rough future/Of an intransigent nature 36-78.
 (*Of an intransigent nature, 45-78.)
- 21 Forget, Forget. 36, 37: / Forget, forget. 45-78.
- 22-23 *Let him not cease to praise/Then his spacious days; 36-78.
 (praise,/Then, 45, 50:)
 Let him not cease to praise,/Then, his lordly days; 66-78.
- 27-28 *The profits larger/And the sins venal, 36, 37:
 The profit larger/And the sin venial 45-78. (venial, 50-78.)

A shilling life will give you all the facts:

[*Rep*, April 1934*; LS, 'XIII'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Who's Who'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

- 8 *Love made him weep his pints like you and me. 36-45; 66-78.

(*weep pints 50:)

Brothers, who when the sirens roar

[*Twentieth Century*, September 1932, 'A Communist to Others'; *New Country*, 1933; LS, 'XIV'; OTI]

The chimneys are smoking, the crocus is out in the border;

[*New Country*, 1933, 'Poem'; LS, 'XV'; OTI; CSP 50, 'Two Worlds']

May with its light behaving

[*Listener*, 15 May 1935, 'Poem'; LS, 'XVI'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XV'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'May'; CP 76/78]

2 Stirs vessel, eye, and limb; 35-78. (eye and limb, 66-78.)

5 *And to the swan-delighting river 35-50:

And to each swan-delighting river 66-78.

6-7 *The careless picnics come,/The living white and red. 35-50:

The careless picnics come/In living white and red. 66-78.

8-9 *The dead remote and hooded/In their enclosures rest; 35-50:

Our dead, remote and hooded,/In hollows rest, 66-78.

9-10 *but we/From the vague woods have broken, 35-50: (*and we/ 35:)

but we/From their vague woods have broken, 66-78.

11-12 Forests where children meet/And the white angel-vampires flit; 36-78.

(flit, 35; 66-78.)

13 *Stand now with shaded eye, 35; 66-78. / We stand with shaded eye, 36-50:

15 The real world lies before us; 35-78. (us, 45-78.)

16 *Animal motions of the young, 35-50: / Brave motions of the young, 66-78.

17 *The common wish for death, 35-50: / Abundant wish for death, 66-78.

18 *The pleased and the haunted; 35-50:

The pleasing, pleased, haunted: 66-78.

19-20 *The dying master sinks tormented/In the admirers' ring, 35-50:

(ring; 45, 50:)

A dying Master sinks tormented/In his admirers' ring, 66-78.

22-24 *And love that makes impatient/The tortoise and the roe, and lays/The blonde beside the dark, 35-50:

And love that makes impatient/Tortoise and roe, that lays/The blonde beside the dark, 66-78.

27-28 *How insufficient is/The endearment and the look, 36-50:

How insufficient is/Touch, endearment, look, 66-78.

Here on the cropped grass of the narrow ridge I stand,

[*New Oxford Outlook*, November 1933, 'The Malverns'; *Dynamo*, Summer 1934; LS, 'XVII'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CSP 50, 'The Malverns']

The sun shines down on the ships at sea

[*New Oxford Outlook*, May 1933, 'To a Young Man on His Twenty-First Birthday'; LS, 'XVIII'; OTI]

To lie flat on the back with the knees flexed

[LS, 'XIX'; OTI; CP 45, 'What's the Matter?'; CSP 50]

Fleeing the short-haired mad executives,

[*New Oxford Outlook*, November 1933, 'Poem'; LS, 'XX'; OTI; CP 45, 'The Climbers'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Two Climbs'; CP 76/78]

1 33-50: *Fleeing from short-haired mad executives, 66-78.

2 *The subtle useless faces round my home, 33-37:

The sad and useless faces round my home, 45-78.

3 *Upon the mountains of our fear I climb; 33-37:

Upon the mountains of my fear I climb; 45-78. (climb: 66-78.)

4-5 *Above, the breakneck scorching rock, the caves;/No col, no water; 33-50:

(the caves, 45, 50:)

Above, a breakneck scorching rock; no caves;/No col, no water. 66-78.

5-6 with excuse concocted,/Soon on a lower alp I fall and pant, 33-78.

(With excuse 66-78.)

7-8 *Cooling my face there in the faults that flaunt/The life 33-50:

Cooling my weariness in faults that flaunt/A life 66-78.

9 Climbing with you was easy as a vow; 33-78. (vow: 45, 50: vow. 66-78.)

10 We reached the top not hungry in the least; 33-78. (least, 45-78.)

11 But it was eyes we looked at, not the view; 33-78. (view, 45-78.)

12 Saw nothing but ourselves, left-handed, lost: 33-78.

(nothing, 37: lost, 33; 66-78. lost; 45, 50:)

13-14 Returned to shore, the rich interior still/Unknown. 33-78.

(Unknown: 33; 66-78.)

14 Love gave the power, but took the will. 33-78. (love gave 33; 66-78.)

Easily, my dear, you move, easily your head

[*Listener*, 20 February 1935, 'A Bride in the '30s (for Madame Mougeot) [sic]'; LS, 'XXI'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'A Bride in the 30's'; CPS 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

1 35-50: (head, 45, 50:) *Easily you move, easily your head, 66-78.

2 *And easily as through the leaves of a photograph album 35-50:

- (*as through leaves 35; 45, 50:)
 And easily, as through leaves of an album, 66-78.
- 2-3 I'm led/Through the night's delights and the day's impressions, 35-78.
 (impressions 35:)
- 4 *Past the tall tenements and the trees in the wood; 35-50:
 (*Pass 40: in the wood 35: in the wood, 45, 50:)
 Past tenement, river, upland, wood, 66-78.
- 7 Looking and loving our behaviours pass 35-78. (and loving, 66-78.)
- 8 *The stones the steels and the polished glass; 35-40: (The stones, 37:)
 The stones, the steels, and the polished glass; 45, 50:
 Things of stone, of steel and of polished glass; 66-78.
- 9 *Lucky to Love the new pansy railway, 35-40: (to love 35: railway 35:)
 Lucky to love the strategic railway, 45-78. (to Love 66-78:)
- 10 *The sterile farms where his looks are fed, 35-50:
 The run-down farms where his looks are fed, 66-78.
- 11-12 *And in the policed unlucky city/Lucky his bed. 35-50:
 And in each policed unlucky city/Lucky his bed. 66-78.
- 15 Through bankrupt countries where they mend the roads 35-78. (roads, 66-78.)
- 16 *Along the endless plains his will is 35-50; (is, 45, 50;)
 Along unending plains his will is, 66-78.
- 17-18 Intent as a collector to pursue/His greens and lilies. 35-78.
 (as a collector, 45-78. and lilies 45, 50:)
- 20 *The pool of silence and the tower of grace, 35-50: (of grace 35:)
 A pool of silence or a tower of grace, 66-78.
- 21 To conjure a camera into a wishing rose; 35-78.
 (a wishing rose 35: a wishing-rose, 66-78.)
- 23-24 *The horses, the fountains, the sidedrum, the trombone/And the dance, the
 dance. 35-50: (the side-drum, the trombone, 45, 50:)
 Horses, fountains, a side-drum, a trombone,/The cosmic dance. 66-78.
- 25 Summoned by such a music from our time, 35-78. (time 35; 45, 50:)
- 26-27 *Such images to audience come/As vanity cannot dispel nor bless: 35-50:
 (nor bless; 45, 50:)
 Such images to sight and audience come/As Vanity cannot dispel or bless,
 66-78.
- 28 *Hunger and love in their variations 35-50: (variations, 45, 50:)
 Hunger and fear in their variations, 66-78.
- 29-30 *Grouped invalids watching the flight of the birds/And single assassins. 35-50:
 (of the birds, 45, 50: assassins, 45, 50:)
 Grouped invalids watching movements of birds,/And single assassins, 66-78.
- 31 *Ten thousand of the desperate marching by 35-40:

- Ten million of the desperate marching by, 45, 50:
 Ten desperate million marching by, 66-78.
- 32 Five feet, six feet, seven feet high: 35-78. (high, 45-78.)
- 33 Hitler and Mussolini in their wooing poses 35-78. (poses, 45-78.)
- 34 *Churchill acknowledging the the voter's greeting 35-78.
 (*the voters' greeting, 45-78.)
- 35-36 *Van der Lubbe laughing/And our first meeting. 35-78.
 (*Van Lubbe 35: van der Lubbe 66-78. laughing, 45-78. meeting 45, 50:)
- 37-38 But love, except at our proposal,/Will do no trick at his disposal; 35-78.
 (But love 35; 45, 50: But Love 66-78. proposal 35; 45-78.
 disposal, 45-78.)
- 39-40 Without opinions of his own, performs/The programme 35-78.
 (of his own 35; 45-78.)
- 43 *Certain it became while we were still incomplete 35-50:
 Certain it became, while still incomplete, 66-78.
- 44 *There were certain prizes for which we would never compete; 35-50:
 There were prizes for which we would never compete: 66-78.
- 45 *A choice was killed by every childish illness, 35-50:
 A choice was killed by each childish illness, 66-78.
- 46 *The boiling tears among the hothouse plants, 35-40:
 The boiling tears amid the hot-house plants, 45-78.
- 47-48 The rigid promise fractured in the garden,/And the long aunts. 35-78.
 (garden 45, 50: aunts 45, 50:)
- 49 *And every day there bolted from the field 35-50:
 While every day there bolted from the field 66-78.
- 50 Desires to which we could yield; 35-78. (yield, 66-78.)
- 51 *Fewer and clearer grew the plans, 35-50:
 Fewer and clearer grew our plans, 66-78.
- 52 *Schemes for a life and sketches for a hatred, 35-50:
 Schemes for a life-time, sketches for a hatred, 66-78.
- 55-56 *flesh and bone/These ghosts would like to make their own. 35-50:
 flesh and bone/That ghosts would like to make their own: 66-78.
- 57 *Are they your choices? O, be deaf 35-50: (O be deaf 45, 50:)
 Beware them, look away, be deaf, 66-78.
- 58 *To hatred proffering immediate pleasure 35:
 When hatred would proffer her immediate pleasure, 36-50:
 When rage would proffer her immediate pleasure 66-78.
- 59-60 *Glory to swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 35:
 And glory swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 36-50:
 Or glory swap her fascinating rubbish/For your one treasure. 66-78.

- 61 Be deaf too, standing uncertain now, 35-78.
(Be deaf too 35: Be deaf, too, 45-78.)
- 62 A pine tree shadow across your brow, 35-78. (pine-tree 45-78.)
- 63 To what I hear and wish I did not; 35-78. (not, 35; 45-78.)
- 64 The voice of love saying lightly, brightly— 35-78.
(of Love 66-78. brightly 35: brightly, 66-78.)
- 65-66 *'Be Lubbe, Be Hitler, but be my good/Daily, nightly'. 35-78.
(be Hitler, 45-78. *but be very good 35: but be my good, 66-78.)
- 67-78 35-50: (two stanzas, dropped) 66-78.
- 79 *Wind shakes the tree; the mountains darken; 35-50: (darken: 35:)
Trees are shaken, mountains darken, 66-78.
- 80 *And the heart repeats though we would not hearken: 35-40: (hearken; 35:)
But the heart repeats though we would not hearken: 45-78. (repeats, 66-78.)
- 81 *'Yours is the choice, to whom the gods awarded 35-50:
(Yours 50: the choice 35; 45, 50:)
'Yours the choice to whom the gods awarded 66-78.
- 82 *The language of learning and the language of love, 35-50: (of love 35:)
The language of learning, the language of love, 66-78.
- 83 *Crooked to move as a moneybug or a cancer 35-40:
Crooked to move as a moneybag or a cancer, 45, 50:
Crooked to move as a money-bug, as a cancer, 66-78.
- 84 Or straight as a dove.' 35-78. (as a dove. 66:)

Night covers up the rigid land

[LS, 'XXII. TWO SONGS/(*For Benjamin Britten*)/1'; OTI]

Underneath the abject willow,

[LS, 'XXII. TWO SONGS/2'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXV'; CSP 50, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXIV'; SP 58/59, 'UNDERNEATH THE ABJECT WILLOW'; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, VII'; CP 76/78]

- 1 36-59: *Underneath an abject willow, 66-78.
- 2 Lover, sulk no more; 36-78. (no more: 45-78.)
- 3 Act from thought should quickly follow: 36-78. (follow. 45-78.)
- 9-10 Bells that toll across the meadows/From the sombre spire, 36-78.
(spire 45-78.)
- 11 *Toll for those unloving shadows 36-38:
Toll for these unloving shadws 45-78.
- 17-18 Geese in flocks above you flying/Their direction know; 36-78.
(flying,/ 66-78. know, 45-78.)
- 19-20 *Brooks beneath the thin ice flowing/To their oceans go; 36-59: (go. 45-59:)

Icy brooks beneath you flowing,/To their ocean go. 66-78.

21 *Coldest love will warm to action, 36-38:

Dark and dull is your distraction, 45-78. (distraction: 66-78.)

22-24 Walk then, come,/No longer numb,/Into your satisfaction. 36-78.

(numb 45-78.)

To settle in this village of the heart,

[*New Verse*, June 1934, 'Poem'; LS, 'XXIII'; OTI; CP 45, 'It's So Dull Here'; CSP 50]

O for doors to be open and an invite with gilded edges

[*Spectator*, 31 May 1935, 'In the Square'; LS, 'XXIV'; OTI; SP 38; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XX'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'Song'; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, I'; SP 68, 'Song of the Beggars'; CP 76/78, 'Twelve Songs/I. SONG OF THE BEGGARS'] (Double quotation marks are used only in the CP 45 version.)

1 35-78. ("O for doors 45-78.)

3 *With the somersaults and fireworks, the roast and the smacking kisses— 35-78.

(*With somersaults 50-78. kisses"— 45-78.)

4 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 36-78.)

6 And Garbo's and Cleopatra's wits to go astraying, 35-78. ("And 45-78.)

7 In a feather ocean with me to go fishing and playing 35-78. (playing, 45-78.)

8 Still jolly when the cock has burst himself with crowing— 35-78.

(crowing"— 45-78.)

9 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

11 *And to stand on green turf among the craning yelling faces, 35-40:

—"And to stand on green turf among the craning yellow faces 45-78,

12 *Dependant on the chestnut, the sable, and Arabian horses, 35-78.

(*Dependent 45-78.)

13 And me with a magic crystal to foresee their places— 35-78. (places"— 45-78.)

14 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78.

(*the cripples 45-78. statue. 50; 66:)

16 *And this square to be a deck, and these pigeons sails to rig 35-78.

(*This square 35:—"And this square 45-78. *to be deck 45-59: sails to rig, 45-59: *canvas to rig, 66-78.)

18 To the shaded feverless islands where the melons are big— 35-78.

(big"— 45-78.)

19 *Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

21 And these shops to be turned to tulips in a garden bed 35-78.

("And 45-78. bed, 36[?], 37-78.)

22 *And me with my stick to thrash each merchant dead 35-78.

(*with my crutch 45-78.)

- 23 As he pokes from a flower his bald and wicked head— 35-78. (head"— 45-78.)
 24 *Cries the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)
 26 *And a hole in the bottom of heaven, and Peter and Paul 35-78.
 (*A hole 35: —"And a hole 45-78.)
 28 And every one-legged beggar to have no legs at all— 35-78. (all"— 45-78.)
 29 Cried the six cripples to the silent statue, 35-78. (*the cripples 45-78.)

Only the hands are living; to the wheel attracted,
 [LS, 'XXV. CASINO'; OTI; CP 45, 'Casino'; CSP 50]

That night when joy began

[*Twentieth Century*, November 1933, the second of the 'Two Poems*'; LS, 'XXVI'; OTI; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, XXXI'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Five Songs, II'; CP 76/78]

- 2 Our narrowest veins to flush 36-78. (flush, 45-78.)
 5 But morning let us pass 36-78. (pass, 45; 66-78.)
 6-7 *And day by day relief/Outgrew his nervous laugh; 36, 37:
 And day by day relief/Outgrows his nervous laugh, 45-78. (laugh 50:)
 8 *Grows credulous of peace 36-50: (*Crows 50: peace, 45, 50:)
 Grown credulous of peace, 66-78.
 9-10 As mile by mile is seen/No trespasser's reproach 36-78. (reproach, 45-78.)

Fish in the unruffled lakes

[*Listener*, 15 April 1936, 'Poem'; LS, 'XXVII'; OTI; *Poetry of To-day*, third series (1938), 'Fish in the Unruffled Lakes*'; SP 40; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, VI'; CSP 50; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, V'; CP 76/78]

(*L* stands for the *Listener* reading below.)

- 2 *The swarming colours wear, *L*-50: (wear 40:)
 Their swarming colours wear, 66-78.
 5-6 And the great lion walks/Through his innocent grove; *L*-78. (grove: *L*:)
 7-8 Lion, fish, and swan/Act, and are gone *L*-78. (fish and 66-78.)
 9 Upon Time's toppling wave. *L*-78. (time's *L*:)
 10 We till shadowed days are done, *L*-78. (We, 66-78.)
 13 The Devil in the clock, *L*-78. (The devil *L*; 37:)
 14-15 The Goodness carefully worn/For atonement or for luck; *L*-78.
 (The goodness *L*; 66-78. for luck: *L*:)
 19-20 *Sighs for folly said and done/Twist our narrow days; *L*-50: (days: *L*:)
 Sighs for folly done and said/Twist our narrow days, 66-78.
 23-24 All gifts that to the swan/Impulsive Nature gave, *L*-78. (nature *L*:)

Dear, though the night is gone,

[*New Verse*, April-May 1936, 'The Dream'; LS, 'XXVIII'; OTI; CP 45, 'Songs and Other Musical Pieces, IV'; CSP 50; SP 58/59, 'A Dream'; CSP 66, 'Twelve Songs, IV'; CP 76/78] (NV stands for the *New Verse* reading below.)

2 *The dream still haunts to-day NV-37: (to-day, NV:)

Its dream still haunts today, 45-78. (to-day, 50, 58; 66-78.)

3 That brought us to a room, NV-78. (to a room 45-78.)

4-5 Cavernous, lofty as/A railway terminus, NV-78. (terminus; NV:)

10-11 We kissed and I was glad/At everything you did, NV-78. (We kissed, NV:)

15 *Arms round each other's necks, NV-78. (*neck, 37-59:)

17 *Oh but what worm of guilt NV-50: (*O but NV; 45, 50:)

What buried worm of guilt 58, 59:

What hidden worm of guilt 66-78.

19 Am I the victim of; NV-78. (of? NV: of, 45-78.)

22 Confessed another love; NV-78. (love, NV:)

23-24 And I, submissive, felt/Unwanted and went out? NV-78. (out. NV; 76, 78.)

Love had him fast, but though he fought for breath

[*New Verse*, October 1933, 'Five Poems, V'; LS, 'XXIX'; OTI; CP 45, 'Meiosis'; CSP 50; CSP 66; CP 76/78]

1 *33-78. (fast: 33: fast 45-78. *caught his breath, 33:)

2 He struggled only to possess Another, 33-78. (another, 33:)

3 *The snare forgotten in the little death; 33-78.

(*his little 33: *their little 66-78. death, 45-78.)

4 *And you, the seed to which he was a mother, 33:

Till You, the seed, to which he was a mother, 36-78. (you, the seed 45-78.)

5 *That never heard of Love, through Love was free, 33-78. (of love, 33; 45-78.)

*through love were free, 33: through love was free, 45-78.)

10-11 All sorrow simplified, though almost all/Shall be as subtle when you are as tall: 33-78. (simplified 45-78.)

12 Yet clearly in that 'almost' all his hope 33-78. (almost all 33:)

August for the people and their favourite islands.

[*New Verse*, October-November 1935, 'To a Writer on His Birthday'; LS, 'XXX/ (To Christopher Isherwood)'; OTI; SP 1938; SP 1940; CSP 1950, 'Birthday Poem/ (To Christopher Isherwood)']

Certainly our city—with the byres of poverty down to

[*Time and Tide*, 23 May 1936, 'Europe 1936'*; LS, 'XXXI. EPILOGUE'; OTI; SP 38; CP 45, 'As We Like It'; CSP 50, 'Our City']