
**COLLECTED POEMS,
1956-1976**

By David Wagoner
Ind. Univ., 1976
301 pp. \$12.50
L of C 75-28915
ISBN 0-253-11245-1

Dry Sun, Dry Wind was Wagoner's first, admired book, published 20 years ago. Plain spoken, the early poems about a carefully observed natural world and man's physical relationship to it, reprinted here, raise echoes of contemporary British nature poets, notably Ted Hughes. Much of the later work takes its idiom from Northwest Indian stories of grizzly bears becoming men, of the secret spirits of great forests. Wagoner's is a calm and watchful vision of parts of America like Dungeness Bay where, at dusk, he writes, the sanderlings alight: "On sea-wrack floating in the final ripples/ Lightly, scarcely touching, and now telling/ This night, *Here*, and this night coming/ *Here, where we are, . . . / Here is the place.*"

**REFLECTIONS ON
ESPIONAGE: The Question
of Cupcake**

By John Hollander
Atheneum, 1976, 79 pp. \$8.95
L of C 75-33826
ISBN 0-689-10704-8

Part of this book-length poem appeared in *Poetry* in 1974, other portions in the *Carolina Quarterly* and the *Ohio Review*, exciting readers and reviewers who were struck by Hollander's elegant use of a master-spy code-named "Cupcake" as spokesman for modern man. Cupcake worries about his coworkers ("Aspirin," "Steampump," "Artifact"), knows that his life is (if he can live it) the cover his work provides, says that "Transmitting the truth is always a problem./ Facts we can encipher, and they then become/ Sendable messages; why do not the truths/ Climb obediently into disguises,/ Learn their lines well and be off?"

**A RIVER RUNS THROUGH
IT and Other Stories**

By Norman Maclean
Univ. of Chicago, 1976
217 pp. \$7.95
L of C 75-20895
ISBN 0-226-5005-1

Tender, well-wrought, in places so funny they ought to be read aloud to friends, the three autobiographical stories in this book are the first fiction published by their 74-year-old author, a retired professor of English. He recreates a rich Western landscape of rowdy frontier towns, harsh mountains, and idyllic trout streams. Maclean's people are fine: his Scotch Presbyterian minister-father to whom dry-fly fishing was a second religion, his mother, the reckless younger brother he loved but could not help, and the characters he calls back to life from his own early

days in Montana logging camps and the fire-fighting Forest Service—the rangers, the cook who was “fancy with cards,” the sawyer who supported himself as a pimp in the winter months in any town that had a good Carnegie Library where, off duty, he could read to his heart’s content.

LITERATURE AND LIBERALISM: An Anthology of Sixty Years of *The New Republic*

Edited by Edward Zwick
New Republic Books, 1976
329 pp. \$15
L of C 76-2448
ISBN 0-915220-06-7

“Torn from the rib of John Locke, America presents a more complicated relationship between literature and liberalism [than Europe],” Irving Howe writes in his introduction to this anthology. The list of *New Republic* “back of the book” contributors reads like an honor roll of writers in English for the years since 1914. Howe credits the magazine’s editors, especially during “its early best days” and later under Edmund Wilson’s literary editorship, with assuming that “liberalism has the responsibility for creating conditions of freedom and generosity in which literature may flourish.” So here are poems or prose by Frost, Auden, Nabokov, Yeats, Dos Passos, the Stalinist Michael Gold, and others who did not share the *New Republic*’s political biases—as well as many now famous writers who, off and on, did.

Science & Technology

THE GENESIS STRATEGY: Climate and Global Survival

By Stephen H. Schneider
with Lynne E. Mesirov
Plenum, 1976, 419 pp. \$14.95
L of C 75-40321
ISBN 0-306-30904-1

Everybody talks about it, but it took the deputy head of the climate project at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and his writer-editor wife to bring this systematic “world weather alert” to the public. They review the observations of experts: that relative stability of global climate in the 1950s and ’60s has given way in this decade to natural climatic instability expected to continue into the 1980s; that inadvertent climate modification caused by heat pollution and the effect of chlorofluorocarbons and other substances on the earth’s ozone layer pose real but not fully understood dangers; that deliberate climate modification, such as cloud-seeding to modify Atlantic hurricanes and