

**A VISION SHARED: A  
Classic Portrait of America  
and Its People, 1935-1943**

by Hank O'Neal  
St. Martin's, 1976  
309 pp. \$39.95  
L of C 76-5381  
ISBN 0-312-850-158

Photographers employed by the Farm Security Administration during the Depression and early years of World War II included the well-known Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans, Ben Shahn, and eight others. Under Roy Stryker's direction, they took photos throughout most of the United States and Puerto Rico, concentrating largely on the rural poor. The Library of Congress has 200,000 of their pictures. Some have been reproduced so often that Miss Lange once termed them "documentary cookie cutters." The value of this new collection lies in the remarkable quality of the reproduction, the inclusion of work by all eleven members of the group, and a text based on interviews by O'Neal that presents the individual perspectives of the photographers.

**DOSTOEVSKY: The Seeds  
of Revolt, 1821-1849**

by Joseph Frank  
Princeton, 1976, 401 pp.  
\$16.50  
L of C 76-3704  
ISBN 0-691-06260-9

First volume of a major literary biography, this meticulous study of the young Dostoevsky should not put off the general reader. Thoughtful interpretations of *Poor Folk*, *The Double*, and *Netochka Nezvanova* enrich our understanding of Dostoevsky's own life; details of his personal world help us comprehend the books. Thus, Dostoevsky's father more closely resembles the capriciously severe Varvara in *Poor Folk* than the gluttonous, wrathful *père* of *Brothers Karamazov*; when his serfs murdered the elder Dostoevsky in 1839, the son's legacy was not a supposed epileptic fit (later seized upon by Freud) but a lasting, deep-seated hatred of serfdom itself. Ten years later, as this volume ends, the great writer is more apparent in the radical intellectual of 28 than we had thought, or he had told us.

**HENRY'S FATE & OTHER  
POEMS, 1967-1972**

by John Berryman  
Farrar, 1977, 94 pp. \$7.95  
L of C 76-52950  
ISBN 0-374-16950-0

This posthumous collection represents only part of the large fund of material that Berryman left behind him. It includes 45 previously unpublished "dream songs," some short poems written just before the poet's suicide in 1972, and fragments of longer works. Among the latter is the beginning of a pro-

jected third epic poem (following *Homage to Mistress Bradstreet* and *77 Dream Songs*, 1965 winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award). Berryman considered he had completed the "Henry poems," written in the voice of a middle-aged white American characterized by a need for women, cigarettes, liquor, freedom, and an understanding of the past, with the publication of *His Toy, His Dream, His Rest*. But these new dream songs are rich additions—about travel, teaching, age. Some of the poems written just before his death view an alcoholics' ward with a compassionate, almost sociological eye. A testament concludes this collection: *The rest is for the blessed. The rest is bells / at sundown off across a dozen lawns, / a lake, two stands of laurel, where they come / out of phase three mild toward the sacristy.*

**AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FAIRIES: Hobgoblins, Brownies, Bogies, and Other Supernatural Creatures**

by Katherine Briggs  
Pantheon, 1976  
481 pp. \$12.95  
L of C 76-12939  
ISBN 0-394-40918-3

Asked if she believes in fairies, Oxonian Katherine Briggs, author of *The Anatomy of Puck* and many other books, won't clap her hands. In the foreword to this encyclopedia/anthology, she declares herself "an agnostic." Readers of Shakespeare and Spenser, Bruno Bettelheim's *The Uses of Enchantment*, or Sylvia Townsend Warner's *New Yorker* stories, who consult Briggs for historical information or literary reference, are apt to find themselves, hours later, entrapped by this book's "glamour." (Defined by Briggs as originally a Scottish word in undoubted use in the 18th century. It "signified a mesmerism or enchantment cast over the senses, so that things were perceived or not as the enchanter wished. Gipsies, witches, and above all fairies had this power.")

*Religion*

**FORGOTTEN TRUTH: The Primordial Tradition**  
by Huston Smith  
Harper, 1976, 182 pp. \$8.95  
L of C 74-15850  
ISBN 0-06-013902-1

In this stimulating work, Huston Smith, an eminent student of world religions, defends the traditional wisdom of the ancient faiths. He sees them as a necessary complement and correction to the reigning scientism of the West, whose assumptions he challenges (or,