
**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