

## CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Minnie L. Smith	
Papa	44
Isaiah Madison	
We Don's Miss Our Water	45
The Drought. . . and the Rain	46
Aurelia Norris Young	
Centennial Hymn	47
The Firefly	48
John A. Ellis	
Reality	49
Barbara O. Townsend	
"Pastel Children"	50
Willie Cook	
Night Smoke	52
The View of an Old Morning Sun	54
Theodore Bozeman	
Now Is The Past & Future For The Dancer	55
Harrison Havard	
It Happened Again	58
We Are Grave Diggers	60
Rhoyia Hope Crozier	
How Long?	61
Question	62
Roland Havis	

The Woman And Water, No Dream Awake	62
Backtrack To Border No, My Father	66
Nayo (Barbara Watkins)	
Do You Know Me?	70
Black Men Rising	73
E C Foster	
All-American Black Boys	76
Aurolyn Jacobs	
A Form of Protest	77
I Want To Name My Children After Poems	77
Melvin Turner, Jr.	
Amerikkkan Pie:    Babylonion Blueberry	80
City Scenes	82
Thomas D. Pawley	
Disco	84
War Symphony	85
Jerry W. Ward, Jr.	
Open	88
Langston / Blues Griot	90
Don't Be Fourteen (In Mississippi)	92
Sterling D. Plump	
Muddy Waters	94
J's	95
Worst Than The Blues My Daddy Had	97
After Reading Detained	99
Sinclair O. Lewis	
Put Your Heart In My Care	103

Deyonya Havis	
Contemplation At Midnight	104
Ahmos Zu-Bolton	
Old Song/Ancient Song	104
The Football Hero	105
Struggle-Chant	107
Benjamin J. Williams	
The Odd Menagerie	108
The Golden Gulf Coast	111
A Honky Tonk Woman	113
A Child of the Quarters	113
Gri-Gris	115
Julius E. Thompson	
Home. Home. Home.	118
He's My Son, But Help Him	118
Sharing	119
For The Dreamer	119
Who Has Tears For A Black Poet	120
Virgia Brocks-Shedds	
Southern Roads/City Pavement	121
L. C. Dorsey	
Cold Steel	129
On Reading A Poem	130
Biographical Notes	131
Author Index	143