

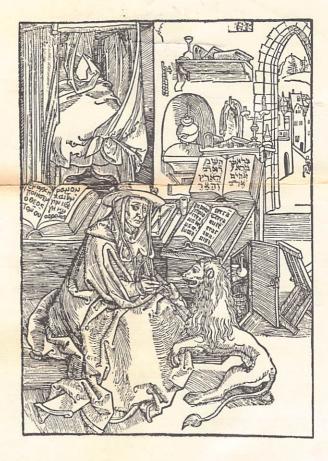
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THE BIOGRAPHY OF A

JEROME, which Grossman will publish on November 22, is a book about a great poet's muse. It is a poem in the making, containing facsimiles of the fifty worksheets Randall Jarrell left for his poem, "Jerome," the seven woodcuts and engravings Albrecht Durer made of St. Jerome, and an introduction by Mrs. Jarrell, explaining the birth of the poem. Through it all, one watches the sometimes inspired, sometimes benighted, always fascinating working of Jarrell's imagination, as he transformed Durer's anguished saint into his own gentler version of the troubled psychoanalyst who tells his dreams to the night when his patients stop telling their dreams to him.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE POEM



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So JEROME is first, an elegant tribute to Randall Jarrell and Albrecht Durer (published during the five-hundredth anniversary of the latter's birth). It is also a glimpse of Jarrell alive and writing again, from the day he told his wife, "I'm going to write a poem about St. Jerome now--his lion is at the zoo," to the last frenzy of self-doubt as he worked toward its conclusion. And it is, in a sense, Randall Jarrell's testament--a lesson, perhaps, for those who are themselves sometimes inspired, sometimes benighted, working to make something read and beautiful in the alembic of a poet's imagination.

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"The poem is convincing and deeply moving. Its techniques, both modern and primitive, are masterfully woven together. I consider THE TABLETS to be one of the more original and significant developments in contemporary American poetry."

--David Ignatow

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"THE TABLETS grow from a mind swamped by both myth and modern literature and still able to twist the past into contemporary artifice that represents, in conception as well as laughs, a genuine breakthrough. All those 'critics' forecasting the death of modernism should open their eyes and bite their tongues."

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"Armand Schwerner is a lyric poet of depth and delicacy and power. I think, moreover, that these qualities and song itself, whatever one may read in reviews, are very rare indeed."

--George Oppen

Armand Schwerner's previous books are <u>The Domesday Dictionary</u>, <u>The Lightfall</u>, <u>The Tablets I-VIII</u>, (if personal), and <u>Seaweed</u>. He is Associate Professor of English and Speech at Staten Island Community College, and lives on Staten Island with his wife and two sons.

> THE TABLETS I-XV by Armand Schwerner Publication date: November 17, 1971 \$10.00 cloth; \$4.95 paper Contact: Julia C. Colmore