Contents

Chronology of Laura (Riding) Jackson's Life	xiii
Editor's Introduction	1
Prologue: Description of Planned Work	17
I. Truth Begins Where Poetry Ends	
Introduction for a Broadcast; Continued for Chelsea	23
The Failure of Poetry	29
Then, And Now	49
The Otherwise of Words	100
[From] Story, and Story-Style	103
[From] Some Notes on Poetry and Poets in This Century, and My Influence	104
From a Notebook of Essays-In-Little	106
Poetry Has Ever Overtaken Itself	122
Reading for the Library of Congress	125
[From] Twentieth-Century Change in the Idea of Poetry, And of the Poet, And of the Human Being	146
II. Poetry Log	
Random Choices	151
As To Certain Conditions Governing Poem-Making	151
On Thought, In A Poem	153

Not Mere Vulgarity	155
The Road To, In, And Away From, Poetry	157
Other Selections	161
Entry in Twentieth Century Authors (1955)	161
Early Note on Poetry Re-evaluated	164
[From] A Commentary of 1967 in Introduction of <i>Epilogue</i> Volumes I, II, and III (1935, 1936, 1937)	165
Miscellaneous General Reflections	167
Some Thoughts On Poetry, Mind, Body, Life, Truth—Loosely Bound	174
Poem-Reality	176
[From] Statement in Contemporary Poets (1970)	178
Background Statement on a new edition of Collected Poems	179
III. Points Made Briefly	
The Tentative Nature of the Excellent In Language as Exemplified in Poetry	187
[Note Concerning] A Pamphlet Against Anthologies, 1928 (1964)	188
Foreword to "Further on Poetry"	188
As To "What Next?"	189
Notes for the Time of Ultimate Candor	190
Introduction to a Reading of "Lucrece and Nara" for Australian Radio	191
Poetry As Image of Poetry	191
Poetry With A Difference	192
A Dour Remarking on Poetry	193
Poetry and The Prophetic	193

The Matter of Metaphor. Addenda	194
To A Poet, on Myth As Modern Matter	195
IV. On Other Poets	
Kinds of Poetic Excitement, Kinds of Poets	199
To A Friend on Edward Thomas—and Robert Frost— and Barnes—and John Clare	203
On Burns, and Clare	204
On Coleridge	204
On Vachel Lindsay, and Robert Frost	205
On Robert Frost	206
To A Friend—a University Teacher of English—As To Eliot, Pound, Yeats	207
To Another University Teacher, On Eliot, Pound	208
Robert Lowell (Written Before He Died)	209
V. From Letters of Mine on Poetry	
Appendix: Two Post-renunciation Poems	239
Note on the Text	245
Index	253