

CONTENTS

Free as a Bird	1	What Bird Was	
On Each New Leaf	2	Brooding Here?	41
Sepia au Naturel	5	Letters	44
In an Endless Line	6	Libuše My Love	45
Swoon	7	Where His	
Evening Prayer	8	Humor Fled	46
Abundance	11	In the Rollwenzlei Inn	47
Snail Mail	12	A Late-Night Visit	48
My Own Sounds	14	After Endless Torment	52
Soliloquy	16	And Then Came Xaver	53
With Staying Power	18	According to the Weather	
I Lack the Strength	19	Report	54
On the Inner Life	22	Still Life	55
Which Came First	23	A Lingering Aftertaste	58
Farewell to What Teeth		Roasted Almonds	59
Remain	24	When My Sense of Taste and	
Over the Abyss	25	Smell Deserted Me	62
The Last One	27	Farewell to the Flesh	63
Self-Portrait	28	Stacked Lumber	69
Standing Singly and in		Xenophobia	70
Fairy Rings	32	How and Where We Will	
Complaints of a Traveler		Be Laid to Rest	73
Grown Sedentary	33	To Pass the Time	87
Innards	34	That's by Me?	89
Once	35	Farewell to Franz Witte	91
On Payments	38	Light at the End of the	
In Frankfurt am Main	39	Tunnel	94
Everyday Events	40	Mutti	95
Property	41	Homesickness	97

When, as Required
 by Law 99
 These Are Facts 100
 Before It's Too Late 101
 Covered Losses 102
 A Winter Too Mild 105
 The Owl's Stare 105
 About Clouds 106
 Rising to Heavenly
 Heights 107
 On Writing 110
 Grandpa's Beloved 111
 Yours and Mine 112
 When the Monster's Eyes
 Turn Green 115
 Fear of Loss 117
 Gone Gone Gone 119
 In the Greenhouse 120
 March Again 121
 Unteachable 124
 The End 125
 My Boulder 126
 What the Beachcomber
 Finds 129
 Last Hope 130
 Now 131
 So They Can Converse 132
 Nail and Rope 132

Suggestion for a
 Souvenir 134
 Twisting a Rope 137
 Painting Portraits 138
 Stared Right Through
 Me 139
 On the First Sunday 141
 On the Back Pew 143
 Superstition 144
 He Called Three Times 145
 Dear Schnurre 146
 Stolen Goods 147
 Found Objects 150
 In What's Left
 of the Altstadt 151
 Dances of Death 154
 Stared Right Through 155
 Tracing Tracks 156
 Hunting Season 158
 Open Season 159
 Summing Things Up 160
 Balancing the Books 161
 August 162
 In This Summer Filled
 with Hate 163
 Herr Kurbjuhn's
 Question 166
 Of All That Ends 167