

The Collected Poems of THEODORE ROETHKE



A Doubleday Anchor Book

THE COLLECTED POEMS
of THEODORE ROETHKE

ANCHOR BOOKS

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BY THEODORE ROETHKE

Collected Poems

The Far Field

I Am! Says the Lamb

Words for the Wind

The Waking

Praise to the End!

The Lost Son and Other Poems

Open House

Straw for the Fire: From the Notebooks of Theodore Roethke
1943-63 *selected and arranged by David Wagoner*

FOR CHILDREN:

Party at the Zoo

SELECTED PROSE:

On the Poet and His Craft

edited by Ralph B. Mills, Jr.

SELECTED LETTERS OF THEODORE ROETHKE

edited by Ralph B. Mills, Jr.

THE COLLECTED POEMS
OF THEODORE ROETHKE



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Note

This volume contains all the poems from previous books by Theodore Roethke, except *Party at the Zoo*, which was written expressly for children. There are as well sixteen previously uncollected poems, selected from a considerable number of unpublished poems. These additional pieces, dating from 1943 to 1962, are arranged in approximate chronological order.

In *The Far Field*, the sections entitled "North American Sequence" and "Sequence, Sometimes Metaphysical" are, in content and order, as arranged by Theodore Roethke in the original manuscript. The other sections in that book were altered slightly to withhold for later publication two of the pub songs, "The Saginaw Song" and "Gob Music"—pieces that did not seem appropriate in a last book of poems—and to add "Wish for a Young Wife" and "The Tranced," one of the last poems Theodore Roethke wrote.

I am greatly indebted to several friends of my husband, and to Frank Jones and Stanley Kunitz in particular, for their valuable advice and suggestions.

BEATRICE ROETHKE

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OPEN HOUSE

1941

