

ALISON BRACKENBURY

Then

CARCANET

Contents

The Trent rises, 1947	9
Bath cubes	10
Translated	11
The shepherd's son's photo-album	12
Great-great-	14
I.O.W.	15
Edith leaves	16
Home leave	17
Frayed	18
Left	19
Binder twine	20
Ditches	21
The lunch box	22
Köchel 622	23
Suddenly	24
After the funeral	25
Fruit in February	26
On a February night	27
Out of the wood	28
On guard	29
The shed	30
At eighty	31
Giving way	32
Your signature is required	33
On the aerial	34
Leap year	35
Serena speaks of February	36
Lapwings	37
Victoria Coach Station, 11 p.m.	38
St Kilda's wren	39
'Song, though, is a uniquely human business'	40
To Mr W.S., from his agent	41
Too late	42
A quiet night	43
Leaving Cheltenham	44
Late at Long Eaton	46
Money	47

I want life to be more like poetry	48
Glazed over	49
Dessert	50
May Day, 1972	51
The cricket	52
Before breakfast	53
<i>Bombus</i>	54
Asleep	55
The second jab	56
The Shackleton expedition	57
In the Black Country	58
The Shaker chair	59
Near Russell Square	60
November 11th	61
The First Emperor	62
The Wallace Collection	63
Thermal	64
Diary of a stretcher bearer	65
Stubbs and the horse	66
John Wesley's horse	67
Rosie	68
Take off	69
Harvest	70
In an August garden	71
At Needlehole	72
The nymph considers the garden	73
The jobbing welder	74
The button factory in Bologna	75
The Beatles in Hamburg	76
Mentioned in Minnesota	77
Getting up	78
Wilfred Owen at the Advanced Horse Transport Depot, 1917	79
5 a.m.	80
First	81
The twenty-ninth of December	82
Looking for the cat	83
In store	84
Flood	
1. Flood	87
2. Mitchell	88

3. Browsers	89
4. Litres	90
5. Switched on	91
6. Review	92
No	93
Acknowledgements	94