



# BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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## Richard Eberhart

### [Manuscript and Corrected Page Proofs]: Song and Idea

\$4500

SONG AND IDEA

I  
To  
MAIA

THE YOUNG

Here gunned he homew  
Muscles full of baker's  
Let the palping crinkle, t  
Be, as it was, his hunting

And I allude a mary-go  
Are no match, brass her  
Nor dug themselves in  
Where passes to repast,

Observe the revel of th  
Praise the young: lo, p  
It changed none the m  
That long since knell

ORCH

I

Lovely were the fruit tre  
We sat in the automobil  
Full of the silence of dec  
For tragely stalked amo

Strongest was the father  
Who set his jaw against  
Pure, hard, strong, and j  
For the worst that evil f

Most glorious was the n  
Who in the middle cou  
By the stark shape of m  
And her face was holy v

And we three, in our be  
Half afraid to guess at d  
Looked in stillness at the  
While tumultuous passio

II

And the first, the father  
Strove in iron decision,  
With a powerful compl  
Six feet of manhood an

And the next, the moth  
Wise with the wisdom  
Poured forth her love d  
We knew not by what

33

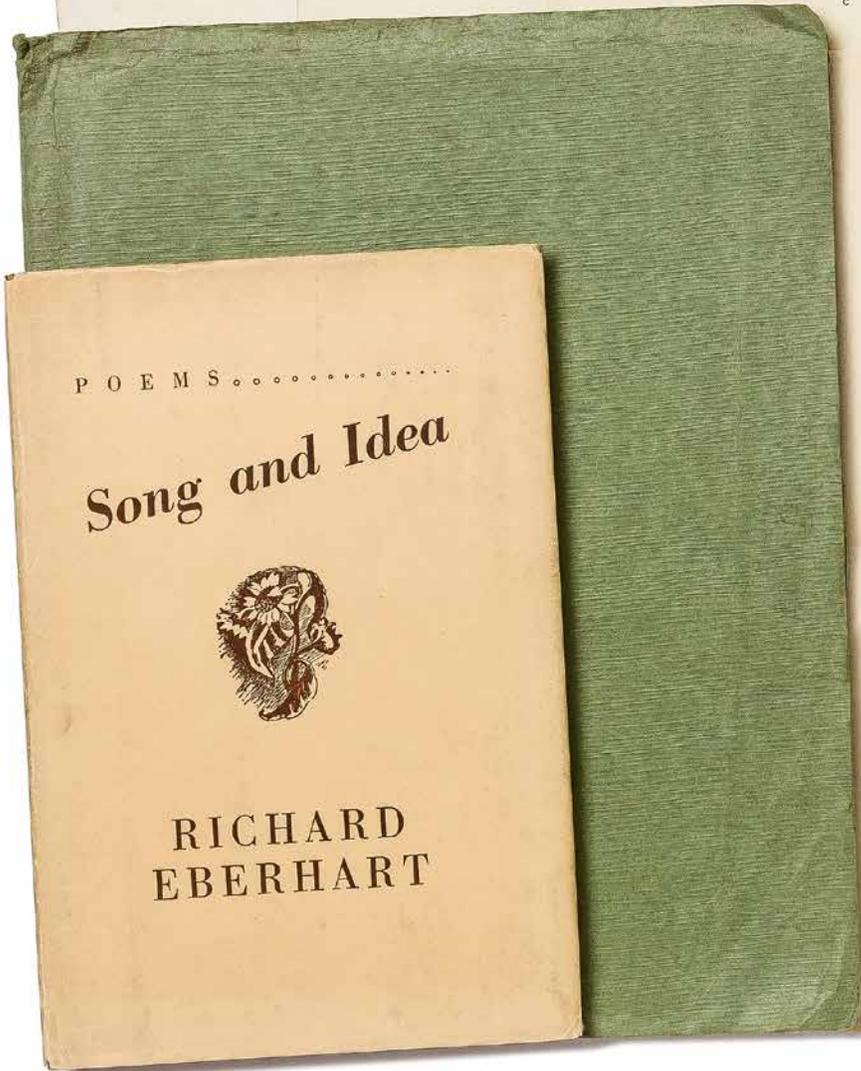
III

'I WALKED OUT TO THE GRAVEYARD  
TO SEE THE DEAD'

I walked out to the graveyard to see the dead  
The iron gates were locked, I couldn't get in,  
A golden pheasant on the dark fir boughs  
Looked with fearful method at the sunset,

Said I, Sir bird, wink no more at me  
I have had enough of my dark-eyes-smarting,  
I cannot adore you, nor do I praise you,  
But assign you to the rafters of Montaigne.

Who talks with the Absolute salutes a Shadow,  
Who seeks himself shall lose himself,  
And the golden pheasants are no help  
And action must be learned from love of man.



Partial List of works published by Richard Eberhart

Books

A Bravery of Earth Cape, London, 1930  
A Bravery of Earth Cape-Smith, N. Y. 1930  
Reading the Spirit Chatto and Windus, London, 1936  
Reading the Spirit Oxford University Press, N. Y. 1937

Poems

At Dartmouth College, 1923-26, a good many poems were published in undergraduate journals, such as *The Tower*, since defunct. *Talman* four of my poems. One of these was mentioned by Frost, which constituted my first critical recognition. (Moshier Press, Portland). I read the *Glass Ode* at Dartmouth in *The Bema*, June, 1926.

Poetry, A Magazine of Verse. Nov. 1927 8 poems

Cambridge University period.  
I contributed to *The Cambridge Review*; to *Experiment* (where *Lampson* began), Nos. 2,3,4,5,6; to *The Eagle*, supported by St. John's College (Vol. XIV, No. 203); and to other periodicals.

*Cambridge Poetry*, 1929 Hogarth, London. 3 poems  
*The London Mercury* July, 1930 2 poems  
*This Quarter* Paris, 1930 poems  
*Transition* Paris poems in several issues  
*New Signatures* Hogarth, London, 1932 (only American in the volume introducing Auden; Spender, Day-Lewis)

*A Bravery of Earth* reviewed by A.L. in the last number of *his The Irish Statesman*, March 22, 1930.  
*Scrutiny*, Ed. Leavis Cambridge June, 1934 poem

Later publications.

*The Listener* London. Several poems, particularly *The Groundhog*, Aug. 22, 1934.  
*Poems of Tomorrow* Hogarth, London, 1935 3 poems  
*The Faber Book of Modern Verse*, Ed. Roberts. London, 1936 poem  
*Transition*, First American number, June, 1926 2 poems  
*Poetry*, A Magazine of Verse, 1937 poems  
*New Letters in America*, Ed. Gregory, Norton, N. Y. 1937 3 poems  
*New Directions*, 1937, Ed. Laughlin IV. 3 poems  
Reviews written for *The Boston Evening Transcript* and *The New York Herald Tribune Books*, 1938.  
Review of poetry written for *The Virginia Quarterly*, Winter, 1938  
Several poems in the N.Y. Times, editorial page, 1938, 1939  
Poems in *The New Yorker* (Sept. 9, 1939), *New Republic* (Oct. 16, 1939), *Critique of Eliot* in the *Eliot Number of The Harvard Advocate*, Dec. 1938, containing a discovery of similarity between Longfellow's sonnet "Nature" and Eliot's "Animula." Review for *The Harvard Advocate*, April, 1939; 2 poems, June, 1939.  
Hika, Kenyon, featured Feb. 1939; poem (with Auden) June, 1939.  
*Furioso*, New Haven. poems in first issue, June, 1939; poem in second number, Jan. 1940.

A unique publisher's archive consisting of Richard Eberhart's typescript manuscript, his annotated page proofs, and a published copy of the first edition of *Song and Idea*, his third book of poems published by Chatto & Windus in 1940.

The manuscript consists of 91 unnumbered quarto leaves typed on rectos, brad-bound in unprinted paper wrappers. The title page of the manuscript has Eberhart's address at St. Mark's School in Massachusetts (where Robert Lowell was one of his students) and his summer address in New York City typed below the title. There are a few manuscript corrections and one poem (published in the book under the title *The Needle of the Eye*) with the final stanza handwritten in pencil by Eberhart.

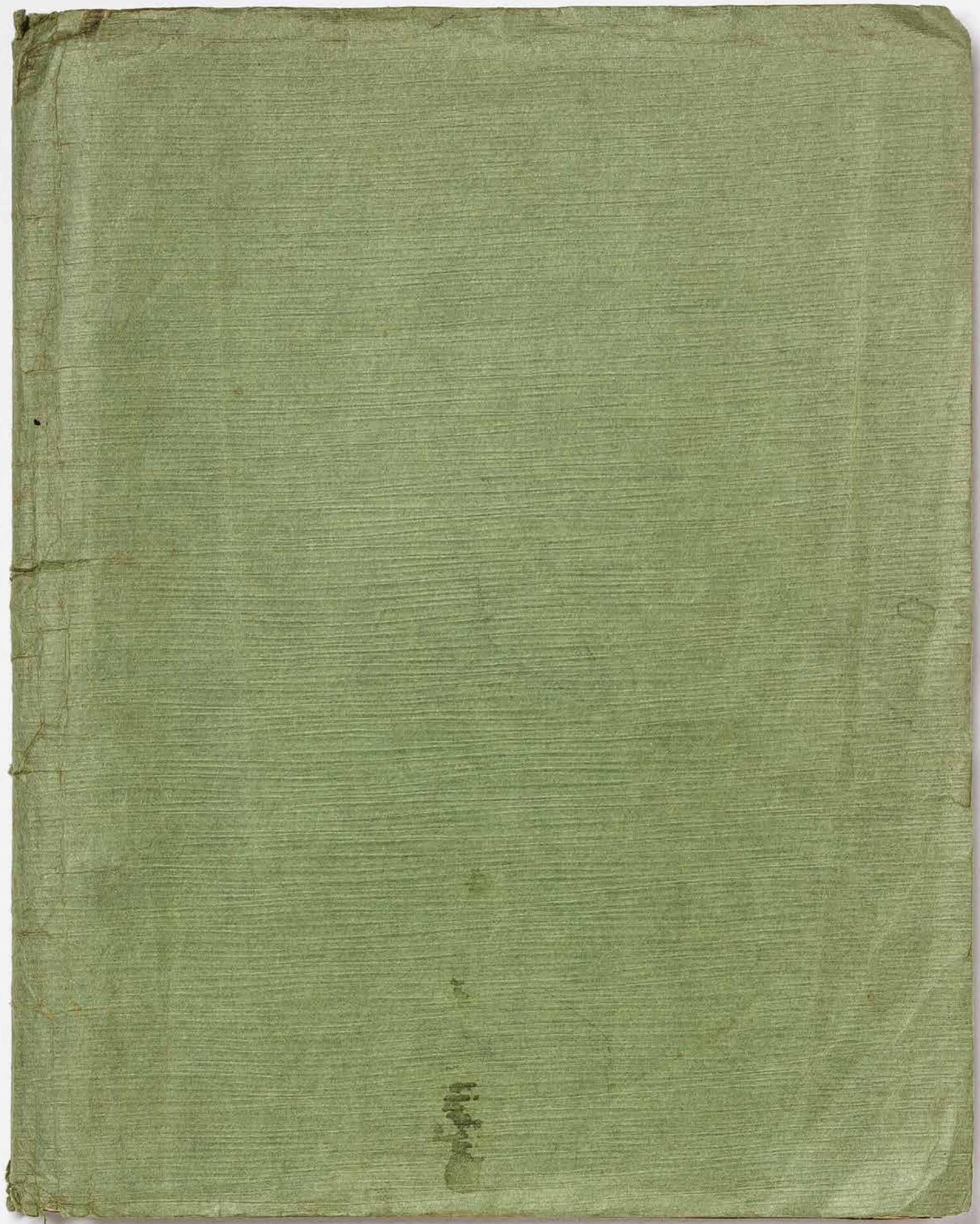
The page proofs consist of five folded gatherings. They are edited by Eberhart with his changes and handwritten corrections in pencil, and with four typescript sheets inserted by Eberhart: the acknowledgments leaf and three additional typed poems.

The published book is quarter bound in cloth and printed paper, in the original printed dust jacket. It is the first edition, published in London (preceding the first American edition by two years). Also included is a publisher's mimeographed: "Partial List of works published by Richard Eberhart" consisting of three stapled sheets. Light soiling and a few small tears to the wrapper of the manuscript and the preliminary gathering of the page proof, overall near fine.

Now considered one of the most prominent American poets of the 20th Century, the Pulitzer Prize-winner first won national acclaim for his poem: "The Groundhog" published in 1934. Described as "a modern stylist with romantic sensibilities," in the 1950s he helped call national attention to the Beat generation (and to Allen Ginsberg in particular), and he was Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress (now called the Poet Laureate of the United States) from 1959 to 1961. He also won the 1977 National Book Award for Poetry for *Collected Poems, 1930-1976*.

The manuscript of *Song and Idea* contains earlier, variant states of all 41 poems published in the book, and 15 other poems not published in the book (a total of 56 poems). It also contains 26 numbered sonnets (which were later published under the title: *Thirty One Sonnets* in 1967), and three pages of: "Notes for the Reader and Student of these poems (not to be published)." Eberhart's penciled corrections and changes in the page proof correspond to the published text. He also tipped into the page proofs three poems on typescript sheets which Chatto & Windus editor Harold Raymond chose not to publish: "Go to the Shine That's On a Tree," "Mysticism has not the patience to wait for God's revelation," and "The Psychic Life."

A comprehensive archive of primary source materials documenting the editing and publication of Eberhart's third book of poems. *Wright* (A3, pp. 14-20). [BTC#409240]



Of SONG AND IDEA the same author:

A Bravery of Earth  
By  
Reading The Spirit

Richard Eberhart

permanent address:  
St. Mark's School,  
Southborough, Mass.

summer NY address:  
Alpha Delta Phi Club,  
136 West 44th Street,  
New York, N.Y.

### BURDEN

Whoever lives beside a mountain knows,  
Although he dares not speak it out, that he  
Must always carry on his heart the snows  
That burden down the trees. And never the sea  
Will rush around him cool, like snow-cool air,  
And carry him and lift him like a leaf.  
He will not find this lightness anywhere  
Since mountains brood; they hold dark league with grief.

The pine trees never tire of moving down  
The slopes to meet him, pointing up from town  
Beyond the tree-line to the rigid peaks.  
The mountain holds him though it never speaks.  
He scrambles over boulders on his knees  
Trying to reach the summit, like the trees.

### "Go to the Shine That's On a Tree"

Go to the shine that's on a tree  
When dawn has laved with liquid light  
With luminous light the nighted tree  
And take that glory without fright.

Go to the song that's in a bird  
When he has seen the glistening tree,  
That glorious tree the bird has heard  
Give praise for its felicity.

Then go to the earth and touch it keen,  
Be tree and bird, be wide aware  
Be wild aware of light unseen,  
And unheard song along the air.

## The Psychic Life

The suicide gassed in the Brooklyn garret,  
The pompous lovers of the Waldorf Astoriam  
Ticker-tape tricksters, the purveyors of poetry  
Tossed on bullish horns, signs of the times

I have been all these, and more.

Washington, necessary cesspool of men,  
Harvard professors schizophrenic over Fortinbras,  
Necessary vanities, vanishing into new vain ambitions,  
Lusty rigamarole of the increasing intellect,

I have seen all this, I have seen every evil.

Irish maids cancer-dead at 22 years of service,  
Girls given a new Packard every Christmas;  
The scholar who got a steel splinter in his eye -  
Ghostly eyes too pale to gloss the Greeks!

I have felt all this, I do not want to feel it.

To recall the psychic life, the musical, to wheel  
In the delicate coils of hot heaving imaginations,  
The twin poles of asceticism and sensuality,  
The balanced spring that leaps in the mind all night!

Only the love of God surpasses long,  
Long love, long adoration, long defeat.

P O E M S . . . . .

*Song and Idea*



RICHARD  
EBERHART

SONG AND IDEA by RICHARD EBERHART