

New Mexico Quarterly

Volume 14 | Issue 1

Article 28

1944

For Johnny Wells IV

C. G. Wallis

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmq>

Recommended Citation

Wallis, C. G.. "For Johnny Wells IV." *New Mexico Quarterly* 14, 1 (1944). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmq/vol14/iss1/28>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by the University of New Mexico Press at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in *New Mexico Quarterly* by an authorized editor of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact disc@unm.edu.

THE OLD IN HEART

If young love struck you below the ego,
 You can be good enough to take your place
 At the empty head of a generation's table
 Preserving and diminishing its face,

For the young is quick to stay or go
 Wherever in her world the blood is thick—
 You are too old to feed such urgency:
 Your memory and your hands are sick.

NORMAN MACLEOD

FOR JOHNNY WELLS IV

A deer may get shot, though a deer run fast
 on the crust of unexpected and deep snow.
 The hunter plods on, and day is soon past.

A wounded deer will leap up like a gymnast,
 move like a racehorse clocked by his blood-flow.
 A deer may get shot, though a deer run fast

where snow and shadow are most thickly massed.
 —No fallen deer! So far the blood-spots go!
 The hunter plods on, and day is soon past.

When doubled tracks confuse the first and last,
 flight or pursuit—how can the sportsman know?
 A deer may get shot, though a deer run fast.

A finite run's immeasurably vast,
 maximum speed is infinitely slow.
 The hunter plods on, and day is soon past.

The deer and hunter moveless, as if cast
 in bronze. Therefore no man gives the knife-blow.
 A deer may get shot, though a deer run fast.
 The hunter plods on, and day is soon past.

C. G. WALLIS