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For R.

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Extravagant August: several men are dead.
 Stars are discarded. Thirst corrodes
 Men at their battles, the hard flowers in their bed,
 Young cattle astray from shadow,
 And the dog in the dust of the sepulchral roads.

ROSAMUND DARGAN THOMSON

THREE POEMS

FOR R.

The years will bare imperfect thought;
 And time, the fatal flaw expose.
 The snare of dissolution grows
 Within ourselves till we are caught.

But love perfects itself, is sent
 Through richer autumns gathering.
 Days past but reassurance bring
 And added reason for content.

AN ANNIVERSARY

In that familiar land
 Once more the lilacs break
 Across the wall; the wind
 Strikes from the lake.

The change is small a year
 Has wrought on wind and bough;
 Conceptions that were there
 Will be there now.

But slowly doubts extend,
 Like an evolving green.
 Oh, take the words I send
 Nor question what they mean!