CONTENTS

I.
Double the Digits 3
Landscape with Desire 5
Bat Boy, Break a Leg 6
Wild 8
On an Oregon Mountain I Remember the Hebrew Mystics 10
Garlic 11
English 213: Introduction to Poetry Writing 12
'78 Chevy 14
Gravity Hill 15
Letter to Dad from New Danville, PA 16
Nights Like This 17
Gettysburg, 1996 18
Winter Riff 19
Sometimes It's Easy to Know What I Want 20
Poetry in America 21

II.
The Baby Screaming in the Backseat 25
After Birth, a Conversation with Myself 26
Mother with Toddler in Wartime 27
The Materiality of Language at Lincoln 28
This Side of Paradise 29
Swallows over Bellefonte 31
Veterans Day, Greene County, PA, 2004 32
The Day 34
Francis, the Wolf, a War, and Terror 35
Cardio-kickboxing in a Town of 6,000 36
Gerard Manley Hopkins on the 6 Train 39
September's End 41
Years from Now When You Are Weary 42
III.

Hen 47
Westmoreland 48
Tissue Balloon 50
Mrs. Bailey Turns Up for a Poetry Reading at Hemingway’s Café in Pittsburgh 51
Across from Jay’s Book Stall in Pittsburgh 52
Memorial Day, 1972 53
Feast of the Epiphany 54
Elegy Against ———, Ten Years Later 55
The Girl in the Backseat Returns to Pittsburgh 57
The Beauty Line 59
Return to Bern 62
Oral Tradition 64
Rachel on the Threshing Floor
  1. Photograph 65
  2. Diary 66
  3. All Things Work Together for Good for Them that Love the Lord 69
  4. Floating on the Lobsang 71
Summer of the 17-Year Cicada 73
Yehuda Amichai in Late November 75
Hens and Chicks 76

Notes 77
Acknowledgments 79