

1954

## Verklarung

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## *NMQ Poetry Selections*

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### VERKLARUNG

The street is unchanged; the air  
closed by a mist at this late hour  
quiets all things and the darkness

The drawer of a child's wagon,  
with its wheels off, rusts in the gutter  
and bears nothing; a trellis

lies across a slightly sloping lawn  
as dull as the dead grass,  
a dull burden of dead crosses

The quietness loses me here  
and I walk slowly through the closeness  
drawing each detail out

A collie suddenly stands  
on the front porch of a house near home  
and draws on me as I pass

As I enter the darker place  
I see it out on the street there,  
its lean muzzle inquiring

after me in a silence  
and waiting, as though to be claimed,  
as though it might belong to me

CID CORMAN